

# OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE



THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016

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60P WHERE SOLD

# FAMILY'S TRIBUTES TO HARRY



Tragedy - Harry Greaves

## Markets in spotlight at trade seminar

OSWESTRY markets could get a major makeover including a new food court.

The indoor and outdoor markets in Oswestry have been the mainstay of the town for more than a century.

But stallholders say the markets need to attract more shoppers and a special seminar was held in the town last week to look at the future.

Now Oswestry Town Council, which operates the Wednesday and Saturday outdoor market and the Wednesday, Friday and Saturday indoor market, is planning a shake-up.

Town Clerk David Preston said stallholders at the seminar stressed they want the markets to remain under council control rather than be handed over to a private company, because of the knowledge and experience of the council.

"The general feedback was that the markets remain very important to Oswestry for employment, for supporting the local economy, for tourism and for being an important social experience," he said. "The main view was that there should be facilities such as a food court and cafe culture. This would encourage shoppers to spend longer in the area."

• Success - See Page 12

## High praise is given to work of authorities

THE head of local councils in England and Wales has praised the work carried out by Oswestry Town Council.

Jonathan Owen, CEO of the National Association of Local Councils, said the authority was "without doubt" one of the very best. Mr Owen praised the council during a speech at Friday's night Civic Dinner at the Wynnstay Hotel in Oswestry.

He said: "If only more towns across the country were as effective and influential.

"Oswestry is without doubt one of the very best town councils working with local partners, the public and on the national stage."

Meanwhile, Welshpool Town Council has been recognised by Welsh Government officials for its "direct and transparent" level of planning.

Robert Robinson, clerk to Welshpool Town Council, travelled to Cardiff on Monday to give a presentation to senior government planning officers from Wales Planning Aid on the council's town plan, which has been recognised as a leading example for other organisations.

• Grief - See Page 8

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## Wales boss opens new football stand



Welshpool manager Russell Cadwallader and Wales boss Chris Coleman at the opening of the new stand. Photo: Steve Leath.

## Soccer chief in town

IN less than two months he will be leading his country at the Euro 2016 football championships.

But Wales manager Chris Coleman broke off from preparing for the country's first appearance at a major international tournament for decades to be the guest of honour at Welshpool Football Club.

He opened the new Tegwyn Evans Stand at the club's Maes y Dre ground in tribute to the club's late president, whose work made the improvements possible.

The former Crystal Palace and Fulham defender revealed during his visit to Welshpool on Thursday last week that he had also played at the ground as a youngster, and

praised the club's thriving youth section.

The Wales boss also toured a football exhibition at the Powysland Museum in Welshpool and took part in a question and answer session with young players at the Flash Leisure Centre.

He said: "Everyone watches the Premier League and marvels at the top players."

"But they all had to start somewhere and they all played on pitches like Welshpool when they were younger."

"It is very important that we look after our young players in Wales and clubs like this."

• Visit - See Page 12

## CRIME

### Moves to install street drinking ban wins support

DYFED-POWYS Police and Crime Commissioner Christopher Salmon has given his support for plans for a street alcohol ban in Welshpool.

The police boss has backed a bid by civic leaders in the town to make it illegal to drink alcohol in public areas.

Such an order would not affect pubs with outside drinking areas.

The application for an alcohol ban has been lodged with Powys Council Council and could be in place in time for summer.

Town Clerk Robert Robinson said Mr Salmon's support had been received in the form of an email.

The move comes as worries continue over anti-social behaviour.

The latest incident involved the discovery of needles and drug paraphernalia close to a children's play area and football pitch.

The items were discovered by Welshpool Town Council staff alongside the Scanias play area on the Oldford estate.

Following the find, the haul was displayed to councillors at a council services and property meeting before being handed to the police.

Sian George, spokeswoman for Dyfed-Powys Police, said: "Officers examined the package and established that the contents was unused.

"The package was made safe, and appropriate arrangements made for it to be destroyed."

## POLICE

### Two charged with murder conspiracy

TWO men have been charged with conspiracy to commit murder following an attack in Oswestry.

Nathan McCarthy, 22, of Abdon Avenue, Birmingham and Arsene Cubaka, 23, of Somerton Court, Birmingham, have both been remanded in custody. McCarthy will appear at Shrewsbury Crown Court on May 6 while Cubaka will appear on May 9. The charges are in connection with an incident on January 23 in which a man sustained serious stab wounds.

Two other men charged in connection with the incident have appeared at court and been remanded in custody.

## INSIDE

### Explosives alert at tourism centre



PAGE 3

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# Talks are held over turbine transport congestion fears

Report by Naomi Penrose

ADDING lorries to convoys transporting wind turbine parts through Shropshire and Mid Wales has been suggested by traders in a bid to slash disruption on the area's roads.

Businesses in Welshpool say that upping the number of lorries in the convoys would result in fewer journeys being necessary during the busy tourist season.

A public meeting in Welshpool was called to address a number of issues including the effect the vehicles will have on the area, after Wales transport minister Edwin Hart confirmed work on the Tirgywynt Wind Farm, between Cefn Coch and Carno, will go ahead this August.

The turbines will be 383 feet high. Mrs Hart said turbine transporters will travel along the busy A483 from Oswestry, passing through central Welshpool towards Castle Caereinion and along the B4385 through Cefn Coch to Tirgywynt.

Town residents and traders met the wind farm's transport company in a bid to find out what impact the convoys will have during the summer months, have their questions answered and also to provide feedback to the firm.

The meeting was called after issues were raised during a discussion at the last Welshpool Business Forum meeting.

Deputy mayor and councillor Steve Kaye, also chairman of Welshpool Business Forum, chaired the meeting held in the Council Chamber of Welshpool Town Hall on Monday night, which he described as "informative".

He said: "It was definitely a useful meeting and we found out the dates these convoys would be travelling through the area, and it was also a good chance for any concerns to be raised, as well as providing the wind farm company with feedback."

Councillor Kaye said although the times of the convoys weren't given, they were told they would start from July 30 to September.

"We were told that one convoy would be travelling six days a week comprising of two large lorries but one suggestion from a trader was adding another lorry, so it would be three lorries per convoy, that would cut the days by a third but I'm not sure whether that will happen, that's up to highways", he added.

## Meeting discusses arrival of refugees



Kathryn Downton, Shropshire Council, Jeremy Bernhaut, Refugee Action, Jonathan Hyams and Marinke Fontein from FRESH and Dr Jane Lane, a Syrian culture and language expert attended the meeting

REPRESENTATIVES from several community groups committed to helping Syrian refugees settle in Oswestry this summer came together this week to meet with Shropshire Council and Refugee Action, the organisation appointed to manage the refugee resettlement programme in Shropshire.

Key members of the Oswestry Welcomes Syrian Refugees group, Chalk CIC, FRESH (Fairness, Respect & Equality in Shropshire) and Oswestry Rotary Club (International Committee) explored how the many interested volunteers can assist Refugee Action in welcoming refugee families in the crucial first few weeks after they arrive in

the county. Lou Calvey, Refugee Action's head of resettlement, and her colleague Jeremy Bernhaut, resettlement practice and policy manager, offered a detailed insight into what services they will be providing via the Government funded resettlement programme. How volunteer groups can plug any gaps in terms of extra support for the families in the first critical few weeks after their arrival was also discussed.

Jools Payne, from Oswestry Welcomes Syrian Refugees, who hosted the meeting, said: "We still don't know exactly when the three families will arrive in Oswestry, but they're not expected now until some point in the summer."

"Today's meeting was about ensuring a cohesive support network is firmly in place when they do get here, dovetailing volunteer support with the service delivery from Refugee Action. It was a hugely positive meeting that brought a lot of clarity about the respective roles and responsibilities of the local authority, Refugee Action, other agencies and the community volunteer groups. We all left with a clear picture about who will do what and when, and how we can work in partnership to help ensure the individuals we will be warmly welcoming can settle into their new lives safely and successfully as they work towards independent living as quickly as possible."



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# Sexual abuse suspect is found dead

A RETIRED priest who was arrested on suspicion of child sexual abuse has been found dead on the day he was due to report to police.

Father Ernest Sands, 67, was found dead at an address at Hirnant, Penybontfawr, between Oswestry and Lake Vyrnwy, on April 11.

Lancashire Police say the death was not suspicious and his alleged victims had been informed. The offences were said to have taken place in the late 1970s and 1980s against boys aged from 11 to 15. It is believed that offences relate to Father Sands's time as a teacher at St Joseph's Roman Catholic College, in Upholland, Lancashire, where future priests were trained.

A statement from Lancashire Police said: "A 67-year-old man was arrested last year in relation to historical offences of indecent assault."

"As a consequence of the investigation charges were being sought in relation to five male victims aged between 11 and 15 at the time."

"He had been due to answer bail on April 11 but was found dead at an address in Powys on that date." The Diocese of Shrewsbury said Father Sands had not been in active ministry for several years.

The Diocese of Wrexham today although he was living within its area was not known to it and was in no way involved in Catholic ministry.

## Air ambulance to aid of cyclist

A CYCLIST was airlifted to hospital after falling ill during a triathlon.

The man, believed to be in his late 60s or early 70s, is believed to be among those taking part in the Chirk Triathlon. It is believed he fell from his bike after suffering a heart attack close to the town's cenotaph.

The man was airlifted to Royal Stoke University Hospital after an emergency call shortly after 10am on Sunday.

Dylan Lewis, duty control manager for the Welsh Ambulance Service, said paramedics were called by road to the scene as well as the air ambulance helicopter.

He said: "I can confirm we were called to Church Street, in Chirk, at 10.19am. An ambulance and the Welsh Air Ambulance were in attendance. The man was then taken to hospital in a serious condition."

**Report by Wayne Beese**

### A WOMAN has been cleared of taking part in an armed robbery at a village shop near Oswestry.

Angela Colohan burst into tears in the dock as not guilty verdicts were read out by the foreman of the jury following two hours of deliberations at Shrewsbury Crown Court on Tuesday.

The 31-year-old had denied charges of robbery and being in possession of an imitation firearm – a Beretta BB gun – with intent to commit the offence.

She was found not guilty on both counts. Miss Colohan, of Hammonds Place, Gobowen, had been implicated in the robbery on the Corner House store in Morda, near Oswestry, by Jamie Watkiss.

Watkiss admitted being the masked man who pointed a gun at the terrified shop assistant before escaping with a till and two charity boxes and will be sentenced at a later date.

But as a witness in Miss Colohan's trial, he told the jury the gun belonged to her and that it had all been her idea.

Watkiss said Miss Colohan had acted as the getaway driver in the raid and that the pair had sped off in her Honda Accord after the robbery.

But giving evidence on Monday, Miss Colohan insisted she had no knowledge of the robbery.

She said she had an alibi for the time of the raid and claimed witnesses had lied to the court. Miss Colohan told the jury that someone else must have used her car.

She said that at the time of raid she had been seeing an old friend and had also been in conversation with her estranged husband.

Two prosecution witnesses told the jury that they had seen Miss Colohan and Watkiss counting out money from a Hope House charity box – one of the boxes taken in the raid.

Questioned by Walter Bealby, prosecuting, Miss Colohan claimed that they were both lying and were trying to implicate her in the robbery because they were afraid of Watkiss. She told the jury that £68 in change that was found in a phone bag in her car when she was arrested was money given to her for petrol when she gave people lifts.

Earlier Watkiss, of Llys Road, Oswestry, told the jury he was the masked man and claimed that the Beretta hand gun belonged to the defendant.



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## Explosives alert at tourist attraction



A bomb disposal team at the British Ironwork Centre near Oswestry.

ARMY bomb disposal experts were called to a tourist attraction near Oswestry after a package of explosives was discovered.

The British Ironwork Centre was evacuated and a bomb squad carried out a controlled explosion after the package – believed to contain nitroglycerine – was found on Thursday last week.

Bedfordshire Police has been asked to investigate how the explosives came to be in a batch of weapons being collected for a knife angel sculpture at the centre which were donated by various police forces.

The centre, which was closed

on Thursday afternoon with a 100 metre cordon thrown around it, has now reopened. The package was obtained through the company's Save a Life, Surrender Your Knife Campaign. Staff at the centre are working closely with all UK police constabularies to remove as many weapons off the streets as possible.

Ben Knowles from the business praised the police for their fast response. He said: "This was an extraordinary set of circumstances.

"We believe at this stage that the substance could have come into the company's possession through the weapon's amnesty and the compa-

ny's nationwide collection." Five vehicles and a motorbike patrol attended the site.

Sergeant Dave Clement of West Mercia Police said: "The centre acted quickly and efficiently, cordoning off the area and ensuring the package could pose no danger to visitors or staff, we commend them on the swift action taken.

"Few businesses would have responded so quickly in ensuring any risk no matter how small is averted." A campaign is under way to see the knife angel mounted on the fourth plinth in Trafalgar Square in London.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Travel company up for top award

A TRAVEL agent has reached the final of a national competition.

Polka Dot Travel has four shops and two, one in Oswestry and one in Wrexham, were named as among the Top 50 travel agents in the UK.

Now the company has been told it has also reached the last five in the competition run by Travel Trade Gazette.

"We find out if we have won at the awards ceremony being held in Birmingham on Monday," Helen Johnson, from the company, said.

"We currently have four shops but are looking to expand to eight to 10 shops by the end of the year."

Ms Johnson started the business with Philippa Wilcox two and a half years ago.

The company recently opened a branch in Welshpool.

### Canal subject of talk at meeting

THIS month members of North Shropshire & Borders Smallholding and Country Living Group are pleased to welcome Rob Dewray of the Montgomery Canal to their meeting.

He will be giving a talk on the origins, maintenance and future development of the canal.

The talk is at Llanyblodwel and Porthwaen Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday and as usual anyone who is interested is very welcome to come along to the talk.

The cost is £5 for single visitors, £7.50 for a couple, which includes a cuppa and homemade cake.

For more information call (01691) 656516 or go to the group's website at www.northshop-smallholder.co.uk.

### Village car boot sale to take place

A CAR boot sale will be held in a village near Oswestry this weekend.

The event will take place in St Martins on Saturday.

The car boot sale will run from 11am to 3pm.

It will take place behind Stans Superstore on St Martins Playing Fields.

Proceeds will go towards the St Martins Centre, which is self funding.

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# Expert says Cheryl's fatal wound 'looks self-inflicted'

Report by David Banner

A BALLISTICS expert said the death of Private Cheryl James at Deepcut Barracks was "consistent" with a self-inflicted injury.

The 18-year-old Army recruit was discovered with a fatal head wound on November 27, 1995 – one of four young soldiers to die at the training camp in Surrey over a seven-year period.

The young soldier, whose parents Des and Doreen James live at Llanymynech near Oswestry, was found with a bullet injury between her right eye and the bridge of her nose. Former forensic scientist David Pryor told an inquest at Surrey Coroner's Court in Woking this week it was his "strong opinion" that it was an "intimate contact shot".

He said a series of photographs showing the position of her body, the rifle and her wound were all consistent with a self-inflicted injury.

"The photographs depicted Private James with a service rifle by her side, muzzle pointed towards her head. I considered that the position was consistent with her having held the rifle," he said.

He continued: "I noticed an area of blackening between the thumb and forefinger of Private James's left hand. Clearly there is an apparent abrasion on the knuckle."

"I formed the view that the blackening could be discharge residue from the weapon. But of course I couldn't go any further. It could be gunshot residue, it could be other dirt, dust, whatever, from the scene. I can't tell, and clearly in the ideal world it would have been subject to analysis."

Mr Pryor concluded that Cheryl had "suffered a gunshot wound to the front of the face" and that the wound "shows features consistent with a contact shot".

"By that I mean with the weapon muzzle in intimate contact with her head," he added.

He said there was also "blackening" on Cheryl's face which, "if it was from the emissions from a gunshot it would be consistent with what you would expect to see... in contact wounds".

Mr Pryor admitted he could not rule out the possibility the blackening was "bruising, make-up or dirt". When asked about the absence of an exit wound he said this could have been caused by the bullet becoming "destabilised" and breaking up into fragments. Mr Pryor was not asked to provide a report until seven years after Cheryl's death. He agreed that he had "vastly less information" than if he had been involved in the investigation at an earlier stage. He did not have the chance to examine the body, digital photographs with the ability to zoom, enhanced images, the bullet or casing, the inquest was told.

The inquest continues.

He said: "We've had false promises. We've been trying to get flashing lights by the school and a 30mph sign for a while now, and the council promised it would be done by March 2016, and we're still waiting. We've also been shouting out for improvements at the top of the village on the bad bends towards the Wern where there has been a number of accidents, nothing's happened."

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## Garden is ready for visitors



Barbara Molesworth gets ready for her open garden event in Whittington

IT used to be a building site, but green-fingered Barbara Molesworth has gradually turned it into a beautiful garden.

The result is a stunning mix of flowers, vegetables and a haven for wildlife that will be thrown open to the public next month.

Mrs Molesworth and her late husband Doug first held an open garden at their home in the aptly named Daisy Lane four decades ago, raising money for Save the Children. Over the years others in Whittington near Oswestry joined in to make an open gardens trail.

When Barbara sold the family house and had a bungalow built on part of the grounds she lost part of the much loved garden. But after months of hard work she had

created a new one at her new home. Now she has a third of an acre of herbaceous borders, vegetables and small display of Welsh plants. Save the Children will once again benefit from this year's open garden at Garden Croft in Daisy Lane on May 1 and 2 from noon until 4.30pm.

As well as the garden, the event will feature entertainment from the Kinnerton Morris Dancers on the Sunday and a folk music group on the Bank Holiday Monday.

There will be a plants sale, a sale of donated ceramic pots and an exhibition by the Shropshire Wildlife Trust.

Members of the congregation of Whittington Parish Church will be selling homemade refreshments for church funds.

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OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE

# Safety and price promise from air show organisers

Report by Naomi Penrose

ORGANISERS of an air show in Mid Wales have declared that the extra safety measures brought in following last year's Shoreham air show crash will not be added to ticket prices.

The organisers of Welshpool's Bob Jones Memorial Air Show said the show will go on as normal on June 19.

The confirmation comes in light of measures introduced by The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) following the disaster last August when a Hawker Hunter jet crashed on to the A27 in West Sussex. As a result, the minimum levels of altitude at which ex-military jets can perform aerobatic manoeuvres has been increased along with the minimum distance of separation between a civil display and a crowd.

The requirements for post-display reports have also been increased to improve the quality of feedback on safety issues.

The regulator announced other changes such as enhanced risk assessments and tougher checks on the experience, skill and health of pilots.

It is also increasing its charges for air show organisers to fund the new safety measures, but bosses of the Welshpool air show say visitors will not be feeling the costs.

"We are aware of the changes," said Welshpool Town Clerk Robert Robinson.

"Linda Jones from the airport, Peter Sinclair flight director, and myself attended a weekend symposium to bring us up to date.

"It was nice to see that all the things they were suggesting we were doing anyway.

"There are some minor changes but nothing the public will notice."

"Our fee is set to rise from £800 to £2,000 but despite this we will not be making any increase in charges this year."

The news will be welcomed by the 12,000 visitors that are expected to descend on Welshpool from across the UK on June 19.

Meanwhile, the show has also issued a warning to anyone local that owns a drone.

"Please note that under CAA regulations remotely piloted vehicles, drones and radio controlled aircraft cannot be operated in the vicinity of airfields and airports," the warning says.

"This is for obvious safety reasons and we would urge you not to bring your aircraft, drone, or remotely piloted vehicle to the air show; this includes devices or machines that you might ordinarily consider to be toys."

The Shoreham air show crash happened on August 22 last year.

A vintage jet aircraft crashed during a display at the show, killing 11 people and injuring 16 others.

## Tenant made profit by renting flat

A COUNCIL tenant who moved to Shropshire to live in a house he secretly owned made thousands of pounds by renting out the council flat he'd been given in London, a court has been told.

Philip Owen-White was given the one bed flat in Ashley Crescent, Battersea, in November 1999 after telling housing officials he was homeless. But he subsequently moved to Oswestry and began living in a house he jointly owned with other members of his family.

And instead of handing back the keys to the town hall so the flat could be offered to someone else in housing need he began renting it out himself and pocketed more than £6,000 in profit. He also carried on claiming the council tax benefit available to single people living alone.

His fraud was discovered in December 2013 when council staff called at the address to carry out a spot check on who was living there. At Kingston Crown Court, Owen-White, of Rhiwfa, Queens Road, Oswestry, pleaded guilty to dishonesty by subletting the property contrary to section one of the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud Act 2013.

He was fined £1,500. He was also told to pay £2,500 towards the council's prosecution costs. Owen-White has also been ordered to repay a further £6,500 plus interest of £1,660 as part of the civil proceedings held in 2014 when the council regained possession of the property.

## Auction will boost charities



Wyn Pugh, Tony Isaac and John Andrew and, seated, Mathew Jones

THREE men who lost their loved ones to cancer are staging a fundraising night for charity.

The event will take place at the Cobra Club in Meifod near Welshpool.

The charity promise auction will be held tomorrow (Friday).

The money raised from the event will go to the local Macmillan nurses and the Severn Hospice.

The fundraiser has been organised by Wyn Pugh, Tony Isaac and John Andrew, from the village.

All three men have lost their wives or partners to cancer.

They say the charities helped them and their loved ones when they needed them most.

The organisers have said "a vast array of fabulous, generously donated goods and experiences" will be auctioned at the event, which starts at 6.30pm.

The lots will be auctioned by David "Clunk" Evans and Glandon Lewis.

The items for auction will include a flight from Welshpool airport, a hospitality table for 10 including food at a TNS home match and bird watching with TV nature expert Iolo Williams.

One of the supporters of the event has come up with an additional fundraiser, a sponsored beard shave.

Matthew Jones, a fellow resident of Meifod, has volunteered to have his beard shaved off during the event in exchange for sponsorship.

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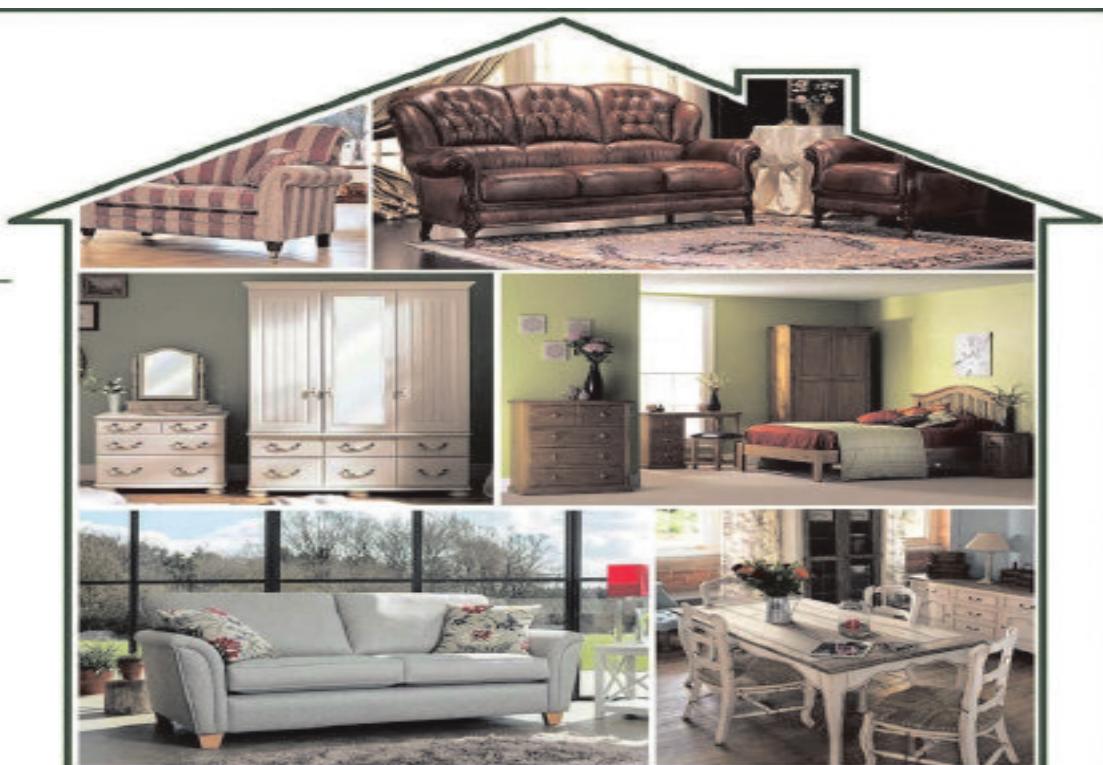
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## BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

As the row rumbles on over the Panama tax papers I was reminded of a story which I feel perfectly demonstrates how our tax system works – whether it's right or wrong I'll let you decide.

Suppose that once a week, ten men go out for beer and the bill for all ten comes to £100. If they paid their bill the way we pay our taxes, it would go something like this.

The first four men (the poorest) would pay nothing. The fifth would pay £1. The sixth would pay £3. The seventh would pay £7. The eighth would pay £12. The ninth would pay £18. And the tenth man (the richest) would pay £59.

One day the bar owner said as a reward for their good custom he was going to reduce the cost of their weekly beer by £20 to £80.

The group still wanted to pay their bill the way we pay our taxes. So the first four men were unaffected. They would still drink for free but what about the other six men? They realised that £20 divided by six is £3.33 but if they subtracted that from everybody's share then not only would the first four men still be drinking for free but the fifth and sixth men would each end up being paid to drink his beer.

So, the bar owner suggested that it would be fairer to reduce each man's bill by a higher percentage. They decided to follow the principle of the tax system they had been using.

And so, the fifth man, like the first four, now paid nothing (100% saving). The sixth man now paid £2 instead of £3 (a 33% saving). The seventh man now paid £5 instead of £7 (a 28% saving). The eighth man now paid £9 instead of £12 (a 25% saving). The ninth man now paid £14 instead of £18 (a 22% saving). And the tenth man now paid £49 instead of £59 (a 16% saving).

Each of the last six was better off than before with the first four continuing to drink for free.

But, once outside the bar, the men began to compare their savings. The fifth and sixth men only got £1, the seventh man got £2 of the £20 saving while the tenth man got £10. The first four got nothing, declaring the new system exploited the poor.

The next week the tenth man didn't show up for drinks, upset by their protests, so the nine sat down and had their beers without him. But when it came time to pay the bill, they discovered they didn't have enough money to pay for even half of it.

And isn't that how our tax system works? The people who already pay the highest taxes will get the most benefit from a tax reduction. Tax them too much, attack them for being wealthy and they just might not show up anymore. In fact, they might start drinking overseas, where the atmosphere is somewhat friendlier.



The landmark operation was named after Police Sergeant Julie Taylor



Police officers were trained to go undercover as hippies as part of the operation



Former drug smuggler turned author, the late Howard Marks. Photo: Mark McNulty.

# Key drugs raid changed culture in the UK forever

## A landmark drugs raid was carried out by police in Mid Wales 40 years ago. SALLY WILLIAMS reports

IT was hardly a typical drugs bust. When police from around the country swooped before dawn one morning in 1976, dozens of the 800 officers working the case looked like unshaven, long-haired hippies.

And the vast LSD operation they were targeting included society's respected folk – such as doctors, scientists and graduates operating in the heart of Mid Wales.

The motivation for those behind the operation weren't all financial either. Many insisted they wanted to use drugs to transform human consciousness.

But for all their peace-and-love ideals, their conspiracy was, at the time, the biggest drug ring the UK had ever seen and one of the world's largest.

After officers seized a haul large enough for six million trips, the price of an acid tab on Britain's streets reportedly leapt from £1 to £5 overnight.

The investigation, codenamed Operation Julie, didn't just destroy one cartel.

It arguably represented the final death throes of the 1960s counterculture and turned drugs into the criminal activity it is today, with the associated organised crime and violence. It was 40 years ago this month that police descended on Mid Wales dressed as hippies.

In April 1976, 28 undercover drug squad officers from 10 police forces were sent to Devizes in Wiltshire where they were trained to go undercover in Ceredigion and Powys in Wales.

As a result, raids on 87 addresses in Mid Wales, London, Cambridge and



Not everyone agreed with the work of Operation Julie

France between March and December 1977 would eventually turn up laboratory equipment, more than £1 million in cash and shares and enough LSD for 6.5 million doses.

A total of 120 arrests were made, resulting in 15 convictions and prison sentences totalling 120 years.

Lyn Ebenezer, author of Operation Julie: The World's Greatest LSD Bust, who was working as freelance journalist in the area at the time, said: "Cardiganshire was at the time the counter-culture capital."

"The likes of the Rolling Stones, John Lennon and Jimi Hendrix had all made pilgrimages to the area, so perhaps it's no surprise that it became the centre of LSD production."

"But we didn't have a clue what was going on with these strange groups who'd moved in. To be honest, if anyone

seemed more likely to be drug dealers then it was the police acting as hippies, as the actual dealers were all educated professional people who stood their ground and blended in really well into the community."

In 2010 Welsh actor Matthew Rhys bought the rights to Mr Ebenezer's book, with the view of making a film.

Former drug smuggler-turned-author, the late Howard Marks, who died this month at the age of 70, believed the key to the success of the large-scale drug smuggling ring was its remote location in Mid Wales.

Marks, who had inoperable bowel cancer, was not involved in Operation Julie. But he was aware of the episode, which made headlines worldwide.

When asked about it a few years ago, he said: "The key to its success was its isolation and the discipline of the people

involved. "It used a cellular structure as a model which you find in a lot of organised crime, including terrorism; if one part of the organisation gets busted the others can continue unimpeded."

The two LSD rings broken up by Operation Julie had begun life as one organisation.

Its founders were David Solomon, an author, and Richard Kemp, a chemist, who first successfully synthesized LSD in 1969.

Police were first alerted to the possible existence of the drugs network in 1975, when a Range Rover belonging to Liverpool University chemist Kemp was involved in a fatal crash near Machynlleth.

A search of the vehicle found shreds of a wrapper, which when reconstructed, spelt the words "hydrazine hydrate", a key ingredient in the manufacture of LSD.

Kemp had been recruited in 1969 by Cambridge author David Solomon to manufacture the drug as part of a social experiment to bring world peace through "mind-expansion".

On February 17, 1976, a meeting at Brecon involving a number of chief constables and senior drug squad officers formed a multiforce operation – Operation Julie – Britain's first combined drug busting operation led by Dennis Glenslade.

Surveillance of Kemp noted his regular 50-mile commutes between his home in Tregaron and Plas Llysian, an old mansion owned by an American friend Paul Joseph Arnaboldi, in Carno near Llanidloes.

The mansion was put under 24-hour surveillance and listening devices were installed.

Down the road in Llanddewi Brefi, a group of male officers garnered unwelcome attention when they were suspected of being a "gay cult".

This necessitated the introduction of female officers, including Sgt Julie Taylor, after whom the operation would eventually take its name.

## WORKING FOR YOU



The Welsh General Election is being held on May 5 – in just two weeks' time.

The voters of Montgomeryshire will be electing a Welsh Assembly Member to represent us for the next five years.

They will also be electing four 'regional' Assembly Members to represent Mid and West Wales (which includes Montgomeryshire).

From the establishment of the National Assembly in 1999 until 2007, I served as one of the Mid and West Wales AMs.

Members are elected to the Welsh Assembly by a 'proportional representation' system, which means that sometimes, established AMs can be voted out because their party does too well.

### Disappointed

I was deeply disappointed when that happened to me.

In politics, it's a case of "you win some, you lose some".

Unfortunately, the EU Referendum, which is being held on June 23, has, to a large extent, overshadowed the Assembly Election.

This is exactly what I expected, and was why I was so opposed to the referendum being held in June.

But we are where we are!

My aim in this week's Chronicle column is to raise awareness of this hugely important event for the future of Wales.

It is the National Assembly for Wales (The Welsh Assembly) which has responsibility for our health services, our education system, our county councils, our transport system, our planning system, our social services, and many more of the public services which the people of Wales depend on.

Because there is so much cross-border activity between England and Wales (road schemes, access to hospitals etc) a good working relationship with Assembly Members is crucial in enabling the MP for Montgomeryshire to be effective.

### Supporter

As readers would expect, I am a strong supporter of Russell George, who is representing the Conservative Party in the Assembly election.

We have worked successfully in tandem over the last five years, and hope to continue for the next few years.

Russell has worked very conscientiously, and, in my opinion, fully deserves to be re-elected.

Of course, readers may well be supporting other candidates.

I'm sure they too would be committed to working in our interests if elected.

My message today though is "Get out and vote on May 5".

Glyn Davies  
Montgomeryshire MP

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St Ives is a beautiful resort with golden sand, a clear ocean and where life is centred around the harbour with its ancient quays. The town itself is

a delight to explore where cobbled streets are lined with interesting shops and the museum gives a fascinating insight into the local history.

Nestled in the heart of Mounts Bay lies the historic market town of Penzance. There's a selection of shops, galleries, smugglers taverns and fine restaurants and the seafront promenade is perfect for a stroll.

The small fishing town of Padstow retains most of its old-world charm

and tradition and is a super place to explore. It is, of course, famous for its restaurants including Rick Stein's cafe and takeaway fish and chips.

Located at the entrance to the third largest harbour in the world, Falmouth has many attractions to offer. As well as streets full of shops, galleries, restaurants and pubs, boats of every size can be seen on the waterfront. There is also a super museum which gives an insight into maritime heritage and heroes.



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## Letters

# PM is going full circle on these problems

I HAVE read nothing in the news recently but criticism by the Government of various public services and institutions.

The unacceptable level of 'never events' in the NHS should never happen says the Government.

You're right Mr Cameron they shouldn't. But maybe, just maybe, they're occurring because due to your reforms, more and more staff are leaving the service leaving the remaining staff overworked and overtired and making silly mistakes.

And your answer to this?

Force a contract onto doctors that makes them work more hours for less pay.

Because making those same staff even more exhausted is the solution to reducing the 'never event' numbers. Full circle.

If another Falklands War was to erupt, where would our aircraft be? Where would the jets land to refuel at sea? There's no petrol station out in the middle of the sea.

Mr Cameron, you and your Government is astonishing in your obtuseness.

You complain and criticise that things are not done or run effectively when it is you and George Osborne who have seen to it that they cannot be done or run effectively.

You haven't just cut out the dry rot of

waste in public expenditure – you've taken down the timber supports as well to the point of collapse. Yes the overspend and deficit run up by previous government needed to be addressed but not so quickly and aggressively as you have done and not with the underhand tactics you are using.

The full circle Mr Cameron is that all of these problems are down to you and your government – stop pointing the finger at everyone else. I'm not going to be the only voter who sees how transparent you are at the next election.

**ELLEN FOWLER**  
Donnington

## Concern at numbers of students at local university

THE student numbers provided by the University Centre Shrewsbury for the current academic year are precarious.

On undergraduate courses, there are 45 students enrolled on 12 courses, i.e. an average of 3.75 students per course.

This is hardly the stuff of a robust, dynamic learning environment. Is this fair on the hardy few?

In 2014, I corresponded with the CEO of Shropshire Council about the partner institution to the University Centre, the University of Chester.

Doubtless influenced by the Chester marketing machine, the CEO wrote to me that "The University of Chester is working to build further on (its) ratings, including improving its ranking in the Complete University Guide".

Despite the hubris that was sold to our politicians at that time this project was initiated, in the Complete University Guide rankings, Chester University has dropped from 68th position in 2013, to 71st in 2014, to 78th in 2015 and 93rd in the latest 2016 rankings, out of 126 altogether.

According to the CEO of Shropshire Council, 22 UC students occupy the 86 or so rooms refurbished by the council and presumably paid for by the ratepayer from the £1million allocated in 2014, an occupancy rate of 25 per cent.

The random rent-free allocation of council properties for this project also comes with a cost in the form of loss of sale or rental income.

**RAY PURCELL**

Ellesmere

## Beware if we stay in the EU

WHAT a disingenuous man David Cameron truly is!

He gets elected with a promise of a referendum on Europe and also promises that if negotiations fail then he will lead the campaign to leave. Despite his best efforts he comes back from his jaunts around Europe with a deal. That is judged by most informed to be 50 per cent of no change. He then goes on to try to recommend that we stay in and commences leading that crowd by trying to tell us of all the dire consequences of coming out.

If his meetings with other leaders had been unsuccessful, which I and many others believe they were, he should or could be leading the campaign to come out.

I wonder what would have happened with the dire consequences he is now forecasting in that scenario? What I would forecast is that if the vote to leave is unsuccessful beware of the future treatment of this country and its citizens by the EU. The unelected bureaucrats of the European Commission will think that they can do with us what they like because we would have voted for it. Watch immigration then and be prepared to suffer much more of a breakdown in our services and increased payments to Brussels.

**ADRIAN WILLIAMS**  
Bratton

## Jungle camp tale is simply just a story to scare us

TALK of the Jungle camp being moved to the UK in the event of us leaving the EU is a nonsense, more scaremongering by those wanting to remain in the EU.

Firstly let us assume that the French tore up our agreement and let all those migrants come to Britain. Why would they form another camp in Kent? They wouldn't build a camp as they would disperse into the UK.

But in real life of course we would return to being a sovereign nation with genuine border controls so any immigrants not meeting the required standards as asylum seekers would simply be refused entry and legally returned to France. The French are well aware that they would have no choice but to accept them back into their country.

As their Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve, said nothing will change from the present situation if, or when, we vote leave in June. Rather than keep putting out scare stories why don't the 'insiders' give us some facts which do?

**DENIS ALLEN**  
Wellington

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Readers' Letters,  
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Ketley,  
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### EMAIL

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## How should we defend coast?

WHAT I would like to know is, what is going to happen to all these refugees that are in the camps along the French coast?

I fear that if we come out of the EU the French boat builders will be very busy building boats for them to come across that very narrow stretch of water.

Mr Iain Duncan Smith says we have a binding agreement with the French that they will keep them in France.

What a laugh that is.

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## Girls to the fore at movie group

IT'S all about girl power for a film society which has announced its second season of films will be centred on strong female leads.

Oswestry Film Society is showing films on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from May to August at one-screen independent cinema Kinkulture in the town centre.

The season starts up again on May 3 with Oscar winning sci-fi film Ex Machina. Michael Hudson, Film Society member, said: "Our second season is titled 'Women to the Fore' and we are screening some modern and classic films with strong female leads."

"Films including Oscar winning sci-fi Ex Machina, Kate Winslet comedy The Dressmaker and Audrey Hepburn in Breakfast At Tiffanys will be screened."

The film society was founded in 2015 by an enthusiastic bunch of film enthusiasts. A season ticket covering all eight films is available for £24 and on the door tickets are available at £6 per film.

## Rummage sale will help good causes

A RUMMAGE sale will take place to raise funds for good causes based in a Shropshire village.

The sale will be taking place at Weston Rhyn Institute on April 30, organisers say.

The event will offer a chance to get rid of old clothes, as well as goods people no longer use or need.

Organisers ask for no electrical goods or furniture.

Tea, coffee, biscuits and cake will be served.

The sale will take place between 10am and midday.

It will raise funds for Weston Rhyn Institute, as well as other village charities.

For further details contact Ruth Ellis on (01691) 774210 or Angela Bright on (01691) 770016.

Report by Naomi Penrose

HUNDREDS of tributes have been left on the Facebook page which was set up in the search for Oswestry backpacker Harry Greaves, whose body has been found in Peru.

Police found Harry's body in a 40-metre crevasse on Tuesday almost a fortnight after he went missing in the Peruvian Andes.

Harry, from Bronygarth, was last seen on April 7 when he set out on a solo mountain hike, two days before his 29th birthday.

On The Search For Harry Facebook page his family wrote: "Harry we love you and will never let your light fade from our lives xxx".

Will Church, represented the views of many when he said: "Harry was a lovely man. Always happy and laughing."

Lee Barnfield posted: "Such sad news, the last few days has shown the high regards held by so many for Harry and the Greaves family, a true testament."

Former schoolfriend Marc Gray-Coles wrote: "One of the nicest, caring, outgoing lads I've ever met one of my old school friends who helped my time there be a pleasant one. Crossed paths a fair few times since school and it was like we had never left. My sincere condolences are with Harry's family and friends thinking of you all. RIP Harry mate one true gent."

One of his university friends, Alex Cunningham, said: "You were one of the best people I've ever known. Kind, considerate, caring and outgoing. You always did what was right and stood by your friends through thick and thin."

One of Harry's former teachers, Donna Clifflands, wrote: "As a teacher it was such a pleasure to teach him all those years ago - funny, clever and so thoughtful."



Warm tributes have been paid to Harry Greaves from Bronygarth near Oswestry

## Tenants have a chance to win vouchers

HOUSING tenants living in two towns have the opportunity to win £1,000 of shopping vouchers by paying their rent by direct debit.

Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing has teamed up with Bacs Payment Schemes Limited, the not-for-profit organisation behind Direct Debit in the UK, to make the offer to people living in the Oswestry and Bridgnorth areas.

Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing is one of 19 housing providers throughout the country taking part in a national campaign, which is offering five centrally-funded prizes of £1,000 worth of shopping vouchers and is aimed at encouraging tenants to take advantage of the convenience and ease offered by Direct Debit.

To be in with a chance of winning the vouchers, Shropshire residents who rent their property through Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing need to pay their rent by direct debit by October 31, either by returning a completed Direct Debit Instruction form by post, or calling Bridgnorth area (01743 257832 or Oswestry area (01691) 677230 to arrange over the telephone.

## Show will have styles for spring

A SPRING fashion show will take place on Thursday next week.

Chirk Celebrations and Lights Committee is staging the show, courtesy of Edinburgh Woollen Mill, Oswestry, at Chirk Parish Hall.

Doors open at 6.30pm and the show starts at 7pm for a spring collection for all ages, male and female.

Tickets cost £5, which includes a glass of wine, soft drink or tea or coffee, and are available from Chirk Milk Bar and Daisy Chain Florists, Chirk.

For further details call Christine Ashford on (01691) 777133.

# SALE

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## Peace group set to host a film evening

**OSWESTRY** Coalition for Peace is hosting a film evening.

The event will be held on April 30 at 7.30 pm at the Hermon Chapel Arts Centre in Chapel Street.

The first film, "5 Broken Cameras" is a 2011 documentary is about the Palestinian village of Bil'in whose inhabitants mounted a resistance to the occupation and appropriation of their land to neighbouring Israeli development in the West Bank.

This will be followed by "Peace Is Every Step" a 1998 classic film profile of renowned Vietnamese Buddhist teacher, author, activist and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Thich Nhat Hanh.

His efforts to achieve an early peaceful end to the American war in Vietnam earned him a nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize by Dr Martin Luther King and a 40-year exile from his homeland. The Buddhist Film Foundation film is narrated by Ben Kingsley.

Entrance is free, but donations to Hermon Chapel Arts Centre will be welcome. Refreshments will be available.

For further information, contact (01691) 650527 or (01691) 662196.

## Village store is having makeover

A VILLAGE store has closed temporarily to undergo a £350,000 makeover that will lead to the creation of two new jobs.

The Co-op food store, in The Cross, Gobowen, is closed to make way for the work, and in the meantime a pop-up shop will be onsite until the store re-opens on Thursday next week. The new-look store will have an enhanced in-store bakery.

Clients include national and local retailers, restaurants, manufacturers, green energy providers, utility companies and professional services firms. "We have fun with all our clients but also work very hard for them," says Ian.

## WE MEAN BUSINESS

THE Chronicle's We Mean Business campaign celebrates Oswestry's businesses. This week we celebrate The Jools Payne Partnership.

The Jools Payne Partnership is a boutique PR agency run by Jools Payne and her husband Ian, the former Surrey and Gloucestershire cricketer.

The family firm provides strategic communications advice including PR, media relations, social media and reputation management to B-2-B and B-2-C clients.

Ian, a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Professional Development, looks after clients with people management and HR issues. "We have internal and external comms expertise," says Ian. "It means we can offer a 360-degree perspective, that's unusual for an agency this size." Ian, who captained Shropshire and Oswestry cricket clubs in the mid-1990s is a well-known figure locally. Cricket is in the firm's DNA with eldest daughter Naomi also featuring in the company's batting order. She has represented Shropshire at women's cricket since she was 13 years old.

Clients include national and local retailers, restaurants, manufacturers, green energy providers, utility companies and professional services firms. "We have fun with all our clients but also work very hard for them," says Ian.



The Jools Payne Partnership team, from left, Naomi, Jools and Ian Payne

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Hillfort battle to hit the airwaves

CAMPAIGNERS fighting plans to build homes near a hillfort will have their cause aired on the radio.

Following an appearance on ITV1's Griff's Great Britain in February, Old Oswestry Hillfort will be engaging a national audience once again.

The 3,000-year-old monument in Oswestry, features in the next episode of BBC Radio 4's Open Country being broadcast today (Thursday) at 3pm. While Griff Rhys Jones's visit made just a few minutes of screen time, BBC Radio 4 is dedicating a full half-hour programme to the hillfort, rated among Britain's top archaeological sites.

Presenter Helen Mark interviewed heritage experts and local residents when she visited at the end of March, including representatives of the HOOOH community group (Hands Off Old Oswestry Hillfort) which is working to preserve its wider landscape. In the broadcast, she discovers why the hillfort has been dubbed the Stonehenge of the Iron Age.

### Work is started on building of homes

WORK has started on more than 50 new homes on a former wood manufacturing site.

The work started on the new development by The Wrekin Housing Trust of 53 affordable new homes for rent on the former brownfield Burbridge stair manufacturing site in Unicorn Road/Whittington Road in Oswestry.

The development will consist of 35 two-bedroom houses, 13 three-bedroom houses, one four-bedroom house and four two bedroom bungalows.

It is hoped the homes should be completed by summer 2018.

Sarah Bradshaw, project manager, said the development will create 122 jobs.

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**NEWS IN BRIEF****Yellow triangle idea for motorists**

DRIVERS in Mid Wales are being encouraged to carry a card that contains potentially life-saving information in the event of a collision.

Powys County Council's Road Safety Unit wants drivers to be part of its latest initiative called the Yellow Triangle scheme. The scheme has two elements, a your details card and a yellow triangle sticker. The your details card, to be completed by the driver, will give information about their next of kin, medical conditions, allergies and medications which emergency services can use in the event of an emergency.

The yellow triangle sticker will accompany the card, which must be displayed in the bottom left-hand corner inside the windscreen and out of the driver's field of view.

To request a yellow triangle scheme pack, telephone (01597) 826979.

**Appeal made over criminal damage**

POLICE are appealing for witnesses following criminal damage caused to a garage.

A wooden panel covering a window appears to have been kicked at the old H Ballard and Son's garage, Union Street, Welshpool.

The damage was reported to the police on Saturday, April 2, however it is unclear when exactly the damage occurred.

People with any information about the incident should contact PC 558 Thomas Marshall at Welshpool Police Station by dialling the non-emergency number 101 and quoting reference DMW/0558/02/04/2016/01/C.

Alternatively people can contact the Crimestoppers number on 0800 555 111.

# Bank card thieves are targeting town shoppers

**Report by Sue Austin**

**THIEVES have been stealing bank cards from unsuspecting shoppers in supermarkets.**

Dyfed-Powys Police said there have been a number of incidents in Welshpool of people trying to note the PIN numbers of shoppers while they stand at the tills in stores.

They then distract the shoppers in the car park and try to steal the cards.

Beat response officer, Natalie Wareing, who is based at Welshpool Police Station, said: "Police are asking that shoppers are especially vigilant when using their bank cards. A number of recent incidents have highlighted that thieves are increasingly trying to note the PIN numbers of shoppers whilst they are at the tills at shops. Offenders are known to stand near the tills, and view the PIN number as it is being entered.

"Distraction methods are then used to steal the bank card and use it to withdraw cash."

"Specifically, we have seen a number of incidents where victims have been approached in the car park of a supermarket and been asked to provide directions."

Constable Wareing said the unsuspecting shoppers were presented with a map or a piece of paper, asked to write the directions down and once distracted the bank cards are stolen.

"We are reminding residents to be aware of where others are stood when using their PIN numbers, and to always shield it from view. Be aware of persons who may try to distract you as you leave the shop, and avoid leaving your purse or wallet in a vulnerable place accessible to thieves."

## Celebration time for golden couple



Phillip and Doreen Haynes have celebrated 50 years together

A COUPLE whose marriage was held up because of snow and a misunderstanding with the registrar have celebrated their golden wedding.

Phillip and Doreen Haynes, who now live in Welshpool, had to battle through snow to get to the Presbyterian Church in Llandinam in April 1966.

When they and their guests arrived they found the minister, but no registrar.

Mrs Haynes said: "The driver of the wedding car was despatched to the registrar's office and the bridal party was invited to wait in the vestry while the guests had to wait in the church."

"It was over an hour before the registrar arrived – there had apparently been a mix-up in her bookings."

"Luckily that meant it had stopped snowing by the time we came out of church."

The couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with family and friends with a party, without any snow.

Donations given in lieu of presents will now go to a number of animal charities.

Mr and Mrs Haynes have two daughters, Angela and Sally-ann and five grandchildren, Jordan, Ellie, Marley, Torin and Elsie.

## Booklet has information on elections

WITH two sets of important elections fast approaching in Wales, Powys County Council is urging residents to take a look at the Electoral Commission's information booklet, which has been landing on doorsteps in the area.

On May 5 voters in Wales will go to the polls for National Assembly for Wales and Police and Crime Commissioner elections. The booklet, which has been delivered to every household in Wales, contains important information for voters on the elections taking place, how to register to vote and how to cast your vote, as well as important information on the work of the National Assembly for Wales and Police and Crime Commissioner.

Jeremy Patterson, electoral registration officer for Powys, said: "I would encourage everyone in Powys to look out for the Electoral Commission's booklet."

"It gives you all the information you need to ensure that you can have your say at the National Assembly for Wales and Police and Crime Commissioner elections on May 5."

The booklet can be viewed online at [www.aboutmyvote.co.uk](http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk) or you can order one by calling 0800 32280280.

## School cashless system launched

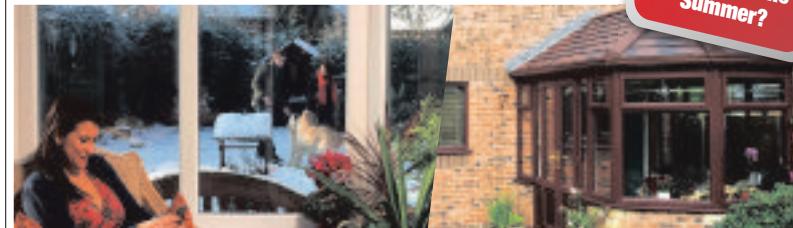
A NEW cashless payment system for school dinners and other transactions has been launched in Powys.

First to roll-out the cashless system is Crickhowell High School and it is anticipated it will be rolled out to all schools in the county over the next two years. Under the new system, payments for a range of school-based transactions can be pre-loaded and 'topped-up' on an online account.

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## MP calls for answers over power plans

MONTGOMERYSHIRE MP Glyn Davies is writing to National Grid to ask what the 'trigger point' is for a controversial large-scale wind farm project to go ahead through Shropshire and Mid Wales.

Mr Davies said there were originally six projects – five wind farms and an overhead power line connection – in the proposed Mid Wales Connection Project (MWCP).

And he believes that the project, that has been put on hold, shouldn't go ahead now at all because there is no need for it and no subsidies are available to support it.

Mr Davies said: "National Grid has refused to tell us what commitment to connect there must be from wind farm operators to trigger building of the 400kV line from Shropshire to Cefn Coch in mid Montgomeryshire.

"No wind farm can commit without planning permission of course. We have faced point blank refusal to disclose a trigger point."

As part of the project, a strategic Traffic Management Plan for Mid Wales wind farms was developed to manage the delivery of turbine components from Ellesmere Port to the Strategic Search Area in Mid Wales, passing through Wrexham, Chester, Oswestry, Newtown and Welshpool.

Massive turbine transporters are already poised to travel along the busy A483 from Oswestry, passing through central Welshpool towards Castle Caerlaverock and along the B4383 this summer, through Cefn Coch to Tregwynt where the turbines will be 383 feet high.

The convoy is expected to travel at an average speed of 30mph on A-class roads and 20mph on other roads.

## Bus row 'may affect pupils'

A SCHOOL could lose pupils if parents have to pay for student transport, governors have warned.

Llanfyllin High School has been told it will have to pay £17,000 to Powys County Council – half of the cost of the subsidised transport it will provide for out-of-catchment pupils from April to September.

The move came after auditors found the school had misspent around £500,000 on transport for pupils from outside its catchment area. Originally, Powys County Council's cabinet, which met on Tuesday last week, was being asked to make the school repay £100,000 spent over the past year. The school must now also comply with county policy, which means pupils from outside its catchment area will have to pay for the transport. The school spent five years using its delegated budget to subsidise transport for almost 200 pupils, including 140 from across the border in the Oswestry area. Gwynfor Thomas, a governor at Llanfyllin and also a county councillor, said the cabinet's decision would have massive consequences for the school. Councillor Thomas said he was aware of 41 hardship cases and a number of Welsh medium language students who would be affected. He fears parents will take children out of school, and prospective pupils will decide against choosing Llanfyllin.

## Union's worries over area's banks

ROYAL Bank of Scotland branches in Shropshire are under imminent threat, a union has claimed.

RBS is set to axe more branches in the Midlands and change the opening hours of others, according to the union Unite.

It says 32 branches of the bank will be shut across the UK, and more than 300 will have their opening hours changed, as part of the latest round of cost-cutting.

The details of which branches are likely to be affected has not yet been released.

Royal Bank of Scotland Group, which includes NatWest, has recently closed branches in Shropshire and Mid Wales including at Ellesmere, Montgomery, Llanidloes and Llanfair Caereinion, in the face of increasing use of mobile and online banking.

The banking group still has RBS branches in Shrewsbury and Telford, and NatWest outlets in Bridgnorth, Ludlow, Market Drayton, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Wellington, Welshpool, Wem, and Whitchurch.

Vaughan Harding, head coach of the club, said: "It is great to see Chris Coleman here in Welshpool."

"The improvements at the ground, made possible by the legacy from Tegwyn Evans have brought it up to the standard of other clubs in the Mid Wales division one."

## Mayor delighted with success of civic dinner



Ursula and Bill Longmore, Wendy and Peter Cherrington and Alma Owen and Jonathan Owen



Percy and Christine Cherrington and Peter and Wendy Cherrington

TWO good causes are hundreds of pounds better off thanks to highly successful civic dinner.

Care. The mayor revealed that a total of £835 had been raised by the event.

He said the donations meant his mayoral charities fund had reached over £3,000.

Councillor Cherrington said: "It was an absolutely brilliant night and everyone I spoke to have said they thoroughly enjoyed it."

"The success of the evening is down to everyone who was involved in organising it and in particular Sandra Trevor, PA to the mayor, and the Town Clerk David Preston.

"It was wonderful to see representatives of so many voluntary groups in Oswestry at the event."

Mayors from throughout Shropshire were invited to attend the event as was Councillor Malcolm Pate, Leader of Shropshire Council.

Also among the guests at the evening was West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner Bill Longmore.

Guest speaker was Jonathan Owen, chief executive of the National Association of Local

Councils, who praised Oswestry Town Council for being one of the best councils in the country.

Civic awards were given to the League of Friends at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital and to Sue Turner for her work for the Oswestry Youth Music Festival.

The mayor also presented an award to the British Ironwork Centre for its community work. Ben Knowles from the business was presented with the award.

## Football fans are thrilled by Coleman's visit to open stand



Chris Coleman signs autographs for his young football fans



Chris Coleman with some of Tegwyn Evans's relatives at the stand opening



Chris Coleman with 11-year-old Harvey Gill



Tegwyn Evans's sisters and brother Shane Squibb, Cadfan Evans and Ann Knight

### Report by Sue Austin

WALES football manager Chris Coleman spoke about the important work clubs such as Welshpool Town do for sport and for the community during a trip to Mid Wales.

The manager was in Welshpool on Thursday last week to open the new Tegwyn Evans Stand at the club's Maes y Dre ground.

The new stand has been named after the club's last president who was instrumental in bringing about the improvements to the ground.

He met members of Mr Evans's family during the visit. The Wales boss also took a look at a football exhibition at the Powysland Museum in Welshpool.

The former Crystal Palace and Fulham defender spoke about the importance of the work of the club within the community and also paid tribute to Mr Evans.

He said: "Tegwyn was a huge believer in making sure clubs like Welshpool got the best."

"To have six players in its first team from the club's youth section means it has to be doing something right."

The Wales boss also chatted to the former Wales captain and West Brom left back, Graham Williams, who lives in Whittington near Oswestry.

He happily signed autographs for young players such as 12-year-olds Dan Morgan and Jack Jones.

Vaughan Harding, head coach of the club, said: "It is great to see Chris Coleman here in Welshpool."

"The improvements at the ground, made possible by the legacy from Tegwyn Evans have brought it up to the standard of other clubs in the Mid Wales division one."

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Conservatives

## Memorials to war heroes to be recorded

EVERY First World War memorial across Powys is to be recorded and 'lost' memorials uncovered as part of a four-year project to mark the centenary of the war.

The county council will give grants for the repair and restoration of war memorials and offer a free training programme to enable communities to research and record those named in their villages and towns. The council has secured funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Cadw and the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority for the Powys War Memorials Project 2014-2018: 'A Mark of Respect'.

"With the support of volunteers and local communities, this exciting project aims to record detailed information about the 300 or so known war memorials in Powys. Another aim of the project is to find 'lost' memorials throughout the county and catalogue them," said Councillor Avril York, cabinet member for regeneration.

"Project funding is available to repair and restore war memorials. Local communities are being encouraged to apply for funding to preserve war memorials as a legacy for future generations. A free training programme is also planned to enable communities and local groups to research and record the men and women named on war memorials."

"Children and young people are also being encouraged to participate in and contribute to the project. They can do this by carrying out research about memorials or by sharing their work about World War One. Free training about possible ways to involve children and young people is also available to school staff."

Visit [www.pwys.gov.uk/en/planning-building-control/war-memorials-in-powys/](http://www.pwys.gov.uk/en/planning-building-control/war-memorials-in-powys/) for more details.

## Councillor to get on his bike

SHROPSHIRE'S first Green Party councillor will be using only pedal power for a charity fundraiser later this year.

Duncan Kerr, recently elected as the Green Party Councillor for Oswestry South, will be doing a cycle challenge to raise money for Chalk, a Community Interest Company in Oswestry.

Money he raises will go towards buying a van for its furniture scheme. In just three days he aims to cycle 333 miles taking in three countries and three islands on two wheels and two legs. He will begin his challenge in Oswestry and visit Fishguard, Rossllare in Eire, Dublin, Holyhead and back to Oswestry. Councillor Kerr said: "During the election I met many wonderful people in the town and was determined to give something back to the community. Having seen at first hand the amazing work and commitment of the people involved in Chalk I am supporting their campaign to buy a van to collect and distribute up-cycled furniture for disadvantaged families in the town."

"Having done a few practice rides I'm starting to realise that it is a little further, and a little hillier, than I had imagined so if you are able to support me that would be great," he added.

Sponsorship forms are available from, and donations can be made, to Chalk CIC in Leg Street, Oswestry.

## Authority hit by loo repair costs

TAKING over its village toilets has left a community council having to spend a lot more than a penny in water charges.

Meifod Community Council, which took over the building last year, had been told by Powys County Council that the yearly water bill would be about £700.

So clerk Heulwen Jones was shocked to receive a bill for just three months running to £3,231.

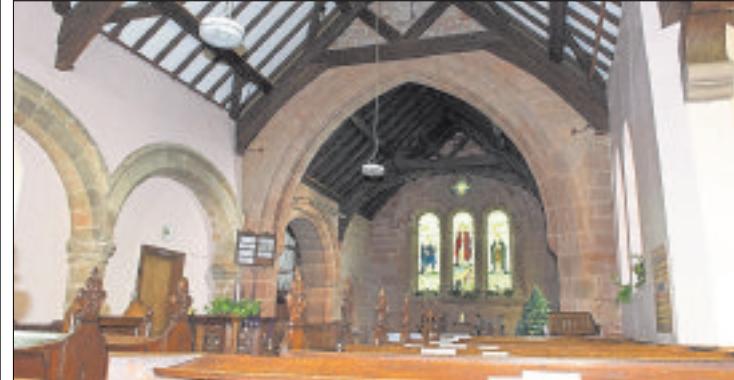
When the council investigated it was found that the water in the men's urinals had been constantly flushing, pouring money as well as water down the drain.

At its latest meeting, chairman Councillor Jonathan Wilkinson, said that the water supply in the toilets had been investigated.

The sensor sited on the ceiling above them is now being replaced and two water leaks from pipes in the store room have been temporarily repaired.

Councillors agreed to spend £870 to make repairs because of the urgency of the situation.

## Fundraising drive to improve church in village



Historic St Mary's Church in Knockin is in need of repair and renovation



Worshippers have organised a fundraising campaign for the church renovation

AN appeal to repair and renovate a village church needs to raise another £50,000.

Brian Turner, church warden at St Mary's Church in Knockin, said so far the appeal has raised more than £4,000 thanks to donations but more than £50,000 is needed on work outside the church alone, which is without the funding required to modernise facilities inside the church.

Mr Turner said the church's stonework is crumbling, and repointing is also necessary on

the exterior. Work is also needed on the electrics inside the church, as well as connecting a water supply.

He said: "There is certain work that needs doing such as the work on the church exterior, and we've had quotations of about £50,000 for that. A certain amount of work also needs doing with the electrics in the church but we're unsure what that will cost until we investigate further."

"Like a lot of older churches, the church

hasn't got a water supply, so it would be nice to have one, so we could have a toilet and a sink. At the moment when we serve tea and coffee here, we're having to carry water here, so we would like to bring the facilities up to date but that depends on how much money we are able to raise." Mr Turner said so far everyone involved in the church had been heartened by the "encouraging response" the appeal has received so far.

In order to help the appeal along a fundrais-

ing concert at the church is taking place, as well as other events planned, and Mr Turner said applying for grant funding such as the Heritage Lottery Fund is also being explored.

The fundraising concert at the church will be held on Saturday at 7pm. The Orthopaedic Hospital Male Voice Choir will provide music on the theme of St George's Day. Tickets cost £7.50, to include a glass of wine and refreshments and can be obtained from church members or from The Knockin Shop.

## Health initiative helps get hydration message across



Heather Rodenhurst pours a cuppa for patient Fred Gates



Patient Barrie Moulton with his daughter Melanie Pugh and junior sister Janice Griffiths

### Report by Naomi Penrose

#### PATIENTS at a community hospital have helped boost a bid to host the UK's biggest tea party.

At Chirk Community Hospital elderly patients on Ceiriog ward and their visitors enjoyed sandwiches, cake and lashings of tea, coffee and fruit juices, organised as part of the national Nutrition and Hydration Week.

Janice Griffiths, ward sister, who has worked at the hospital for 13 years, said it is vitally important patients drink and eat enough to help their recovery.

She said: "The patients on Ceiriog Ward are mostly elderly and here for rehabilitation following surgery, with the majority of admissions coming from Wrexham Maelor Hospital or from local GP practices.

"Many of our patients also have early stage dementia so ensuring they are properly hydrated is vital otherwise they can become confused and quickly become quite poorly."

"People with dementia can be given a drink such as a cup of tea but become distracted and simply not drink it. We work to ensure they get the fluids they need and make sure patients are drinking the right amounts."

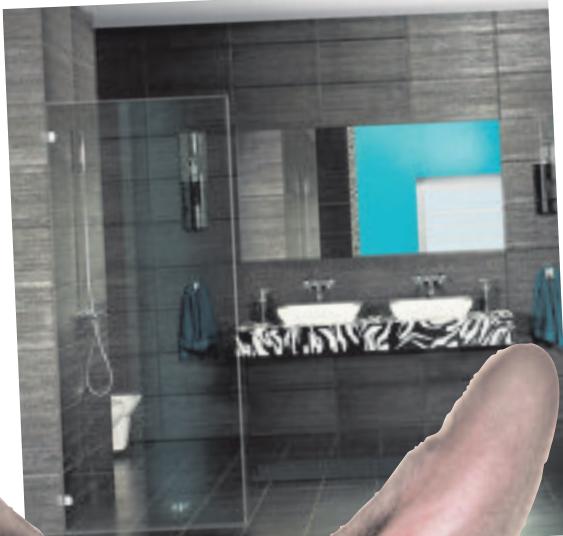
"We are lucky here at Chirk as the food prepared on site in our kitchens is excellent but we still want to ensure there are always healthy snacks, fruit and drinks available between meal times should a patient want something." The Association of UK Dieticians, which was behind the event, is now waiting to hear if it has won the title of biggest tea party, with patients and staff at health centres across the UK taking part. Its campaign aims to highlight the importance of good nutrition at all stages of life, from infancy to old age.



Rowena Barnett, catering assistant, enjoys the tea party



Student nurse Nathan Stevenson with patient Nancy Williams



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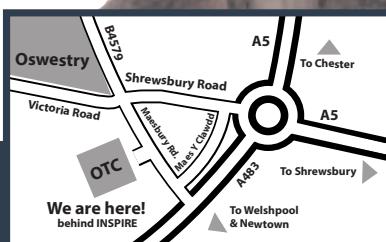
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## Farmer group plans another capital march

A PROTEST that saw more than 2,000 farmers, including many from the Oswestry area, march through the capital was so successful that organisers are planning to take to the streets and voice their concerns again.

Campaign group Farmers For Action has revealed it is planning a second march in London on June 22 – the day before the EU referendum – to raise further awareness of the issues affecting farmers.

It comes after farmers from Shropshire joined others from across the country last month calling for changes in the industry.

Posting on the FFA Facebook page, co-founder of the group Marilyn Handley said: "On January 26 we asked for your support in London on March 23. Just two months later look what we all achieved."

"Therefore, the clock has been rewound and is now counting down to a new date for your diary in London on June 22."

"So don't throw those whistles and banners away, you will need them again."

The recent protest saw FFA present a letter of concern to David Cameron at Number 10 Downing Street.

The letter says: "We know that you are fully aware of the serious situation being experienced by virtually all sections of the farming industry. Dairy and pigs are probably experiencing the worst prices paid in decades. Many are exiting the industry and in the coming months those numbers, if current prices continue, will only accelerate. It is urgent we get some direction from the Government as to the way forward."

Rob Newbery, NFU regional director, said: "Some farming sectors have been under severe financial pressure over the past 12 months from low prices, compounded by further cuts this year."

## MP hits out at phone signal

MOBILE phone signal in Shropshire has been described as "not fit for purpose" ahead of a crunch meeting between network bosses.

Owen Paterson is urging residents to contact him if they have mobile phone signal issues ahead of his meeting with councillors and mobile phone officials this week.

The North Shropshire MP said mobile and broadband coverage continues to be a problem in the area and has said it now urgently needs to be sorted.

Mr Paterson has said the county's network is "not fit for purpose" and warned the service is deteriorating as demand grows.

He is set to meet members of Shropshire Council and the Local Government Association tomorrow (Friday) about the patchy mobile phone and broadband coverage. Mr Paterson said: "The signal in North Shropshire is not just bad but is deteriorating weekly."

Local people and businesses have the right to a better signal and I would encourage constituents experiencing problems to continue to contact me with their own experiences so that I can add their weight to my campaign.

"Mobile phone coverage continues to be a problem and it is my top priority to sort."

## Rail fans looking forward to trip

MEMBERS of local railway societies will be heading to the far south-west of the rail network on April 30 when they take advantage of a special excursion train.

"The Cornish Explorer" charter train is being promoted by the West Coast Railway Co starting from Chester at 5.10am and stopping to pick up passengers at Gobowen at 5.53am and Shrewsbury at 6.18am. The route continues via the Welsh border stations to Bristol and Exeter to Penzance.

Gareth Thomas from Oswestry said: "It will mean rising early, but it is nearly 350 miles by rail to Penzance, the most southerly point on the English rail network and it will take nearly eight hours to get there. This train has been long anticipated by local rail fans and despite some operational doubts it has now been confirmed as running as advertised, subject to adequate support, as seats are still available."

Further details are available at [www.westcoastrailways.co.uk](http://www.westcoastrailways.co.uk)

## Vibrant work goes on display at exhibition centre



Artist Beth Darlington, of Gobowen, with some of her work

NEW and vibrant exhibitions are signalling the start of the spring season at a visitor centre.

Three artists have set up new displays at Oswestry's Visitor and Exhibition Centre in Church Terrace, ready to welcome the lighter months ahead.

Artists include Beth Darlington, whose colourful work is created through the use of poured acrylic paint and gold leaf.

The work links in with her love of all things

space, the universe, light, and everything that binds all matter together in accordance with quantum physics.

Work from Jo Holden, who uses watercolours to create her paintings of monkeys, gorillas and various other creatures, is also on display at the centre.

And Oswestry-based artist Judith Harrison is also showcasing her work at the centre as part of the new exhibition.

Judith uses the printing technique of col-



Beth Darlington with more of her work at Oswestry Visitor and Exhibition Centre

lograph, which refers to a collage of materials glued on to a "printing plate," which is a square of cardboard.

When glue is dry, it is shellacked or varnished so that it can be painted with acrylics. Paper is then pressed on to the surface to produce a print.

Her work features bumble bees, owls, ducks

and various other animals.

Sue Miller, exhibition organiser at the centre, said all of the artists' works were unique in

their own way. She said: "Each of their work is very interesting."

"Beth's is very colourful, while Jo's water-colour creatures are beautifully executed, and then you have Judith's technique which is essentially building up a texture."

"They're all bright and colourful, and indicate that spring is here, and they're all well worth a look at."

The three artists' works will be on display at the centre until April 30.

## Careers fair at college was just the job, say organisers



Staff, exhibitors, visitors and councillors supported the college's careers fair



The careers fair at North Shropshire College in Oswestry attracted people from all walks of life

### Report by Naomi Penrose

#### A CAREERS fair in Oswestry has been deemed a huge success by organisers.

The Your Future Careers Fair was held at North Shropshire College in partnership with Shropshire Chamber of Commerce.

The fair was open to college students, school pupils and members of the public, giving them the opportunity to see what universities, training providers and local employers can offer them.

Members of the local business community supported the event by holding 'Have-a-Go' workshops, giving attendees valuable advice and practice with skills such as interview techniques.

A popular activity was the digger simulator brought by Hawk Group and the 3D printers brought by Shropshire 3D Print. Zootsby's small exotic animals were handled throughout the event by attendees.

Business course leader Sarah Probert said: "I would like to pass on my thanks and gratitude to all of the businesses, business leaders, educational providers, charities and the Army who supported the NSC Your Future Careers Event."

"Business involvement in 'Bridging the Gap' between employment and education is paramount and I am grateful for their support."

"Thank you to Mayor of Oswestry Peter Cherrington, Deputy Mayor Paul Milner, Claire Woolgrove and Susan Lawrence who conducted mock interviews throughout the day, the students found these extremely beneficial."

"It was fantastic to work in partnership with the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce who supported us not only financially but with staff and goody bags also."



A visitor having a go on Hawk Group's digger simulator



Faye Askey and Stefano Speranza from the Hawk Group

## Spotlight in Llangollen

# Lovely town in beautiful valley has plenty to offer

By Naomi Penrose

WITH its picturesque position on the River Dee, the popular tourist town of Llangollen has been a huge draw for visitors for generations.

World renowned for its International Music Eisteddfod in the summer, the town is a joy to visit at any time of the year.

The streets of the beautiful town are more often than not busy with shoppers and tourists. Shoppers are drawn to the town to enjoy its fine mix of independent retail outlets offering a huge variety of goods and services.

And tourists are drawn to the town for many reasons, not least because of its position in one of the country's most attractive valleys.

The Dee Valley is truly a beautiful area and visitors come from near and far to enjoy it.

There is no shortage of activities going on in Llangollen throughout the year.

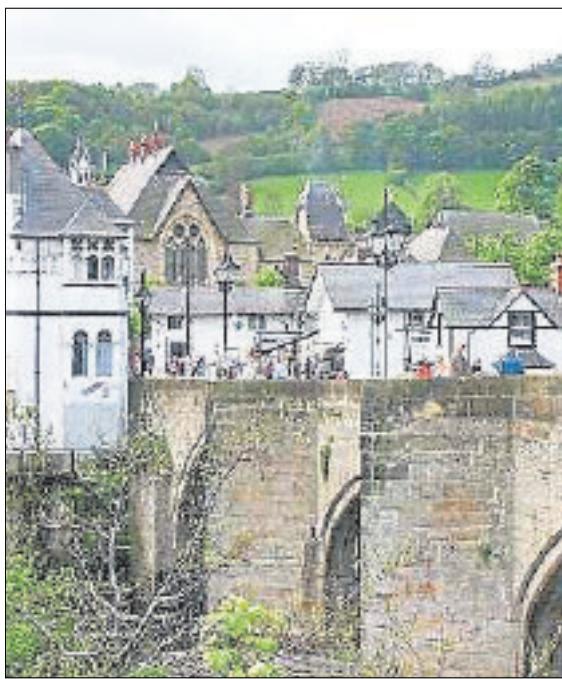
One of its most popular is a boat ride along the Llangollen Canal. The views from the waterway show the Dee Valley in all its glory.

Many visitors enjoy a horse-pulled canal boat trip along the waterway.

And others enjoy going further afield, travelling to the famous Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.

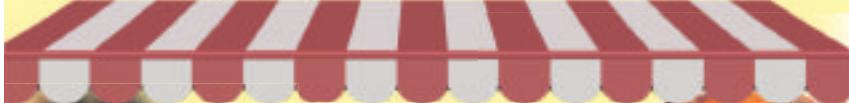
And an enjoyable ride on the Llangollen Railway is another huge draw for visitors.

The railway stages various themed events throughout the year, including its very popular Santa Trains.



The town of Llangollen has a fine mix of businesses

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Oswestry & Border  
CHRONICLE

# Chamber works hard to promote local business

Report by Naomi Penrose

**BUSINESS** people in Oswestry are rightly proud of their town and the work they do to improve it.

The town's main business group is the Oswestry Chamber of Commerce and one of its main aims is to increase the number of visitors and shoppers.

The group's monthly meetings also act as a useful networking opportunity for businesses and organisations.

The chamber recently elected a new chairman and a new executive committee.

The new chairman is Neil Jenkins from Twelve Green Bottles wine shop and the group's vice chairman is Heather Noble from Salt Solutions.

The group's treasurer is Andrew Clarke from Morris Cook Accountants.

Executive committee members are Mark Derham from Bridge Coffee, Catherine Devine from VCW Security, David Lee Birch from Review Media,

Jean Oakley from Sign and Design, Sarah Probert of North Shropshire College and Laurel Roberts from Qube.

Neil Jenkins said: "I am delighted to have been elected as chairman and am grateful to Jools Payne for her efforts during her time as chairman. I hope we can continue to build upon the successes of last year and move forward with renewed energy and enthusiasm."

"I would also like to thank those who stood for office and look forward to working with them over the coming months. I am particularly keen to continue to grow our membership and to



Oswestry Chamber of Commerce meetings are useful networking opportunities

forge strong relationships with local communities in order to strengthen the business community of our town.

"We have so much to offer and if we work together I believe we can achieve great things in the coming year."

Oswestry Chamber of Commerce meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 6pm to 8pm at The Townhouse in Willow Street and visitors are welcome to attend.

Meetings usually include a speaker, an update of local business news and the opportunity for informal networking.

Membership of the Oswestry Chamber of Commerce is £25 per annum, which includes a website listing and monthly member meetings.

Further details can be found at [www.oswestrychamber.org](http://www.oswestrychamber.org) or by contacting Mr Jenkins on (01691) 777939.

The next members meeting will be on Wednesday, May 6 at 6pm.

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# Markets are still vital part of community

Report by Naomi Penrose

**OSWESTRY** has a proud history as a market town and its markets continue to be a vital part of community life.

The markets provide a diverse, and often unusual, range of interesting stalls, selling and providing a vast range of services.

Markets have been a major part of the trading and historical importance of Oswestry and have existed for many centuries.

The first known charter was granted during the reign of Henry II when the Town was known as Whitminster.

In 1262 a charter was granted by John FitzAlan, Lord of the Manor To our Burgesses of our village of Oswald-street.

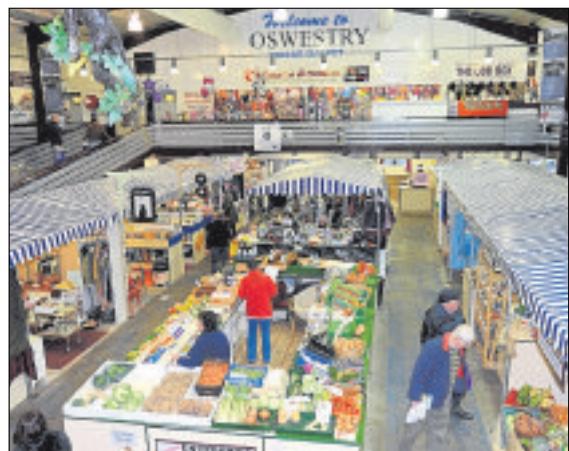
## Maintained

The Powis Hall Indoor Market Hall was originally maintained by the Lord of the Manor, and was the Town Hall or Guildhall until premises adjacent were built in 1782.

From this date until 1960 the building was used as a corn exchange, then as a butter and cheese market and during the Second World War for emergency storage and for auxiliary fire service purposes.

The hall was reconstructed in 1963 and is open every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday throughout the year.

The indoor market enjoyed a revamp in 2012 after winning an online voting competition in The Times newspaper in association with design company,



Oswestry Indoor Market is based at the Powis Hall on the Bailey Head

My Deco. Various regular events are held in the market, including card making and craft sessions. The hall was nominated for the competition by one of its market traders and it won the prize of £50,000 which was given in kind – the estimated cost of the advice from designer Sir Terence Conran and materials.

Work included a new glass lift, refurbishing the toilets, creating wi-fi facilities, a fresh lick of paint and

hanging large canopies from the ceiling. Oswestry's outdoor market on the Bailey Head is also an important feature of the town. The outdoor market area also provides an opportunity for specialist events to be staged such as antique and continental markets. These markets often attract visitors from a wide area and offer something different to the town, as well as improving the number of shoppers coming to Oswestry.

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## Spotlight on Oswestry

# Popular town is a great place for retail therapy

Report by Naomi Penrose

AS anyone who knows Oswestry will tell you, the town is a great place to live, work and shop.

Shoppers come from near and far to enjoy everything the town offers.

The town is renowned for its mix of independent retailers who operate alongside some of the best known high street chains.

Many of the town's traders have seen their excellent work recognised in national trade awards.

The warm and personal service the small independent businesses give to shoppers means people come back to the town centre time and time again.

Oswestry also has its fair share of supermarkets and large food stores.

Firms in the town include Sainsbury's, Morrisons, Aldi and Co-op and there is also a Marks & Spencer Simply Food store.

While the town centre has a fantastic mix of retail options, the edge of Oswestry has also become an important shopping zone.

The Penda Retail Park on Salop Road houses many of the country's largest chains.

And major work is being carried out to further develop the Oswestry Gateway business area on Shrewsbury Road.

The area, on the eastern edge of Oswestry, already has a KFC restaurant, a Starbucks coffee house, a Table Table restaurant and pub and a Premier Inn hotel.



Shoppers come to Oswestry from near and far for the best bargains

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Antonia Laundy has been ice climbing in Rjukan, Norway



Alex Wetton from the Marches A debating team



Adcote School has three new gap year students

# Eventful activities



Paul Clark is running the London Marathon



North Shropshire College's shepherd Ollie Coombs with a lamb



Alwyn Hamilton signing a copy of her book



The Doster family at the lambing event



Reuben Miller with college shepherd Ollie Coombs

**THERE'S** been plenty of activities and events taking place at schools and colleges in the Oswestry and Welshpool areas in recent weeks.

Imaginations ran wild when a fantasy author dropped in to talk to school children at Packwood Haugh School in Ruyton-XI-Towns near Oswestry.

Alwyn Hamilton visited Packwood Haugh School to talk about her novel, *Rebel of the Sands*.

Her visit inspired a whole host of fantastic, weird and wonderful ideas from senior pupils as they took part in a world building exercise under her guidance.

A trio of antipodeans have joined the staff at a girl's school to bring another perspective to pupils in Shropshire.

Adcote School at Little Ness near Oswestry has welcomed Meg Jenkins and Katie Devine from Australia and Meagan Rawnsley from

## Report by Naomi Penrose

New Zealand as gap year assistants. The group will be spending a year at the school before heading to university next year.

A schoolgirl has spent a week ice climbing in Norway after winning a national competition.

Antonia Laundy was invited to attend the Cadet Centre for Adventurous Training ice climbing trip to Rjukan, Norway, after entering a competition through Oswestry School's Adventure Education programme.

The 18-year-old, who is in the school's Upper Sixth Form, was one of just six people to earn a place on the trip.

Having qualified through the North West Regional Rounds, The Marches A debating team from Oswestry, consisting of Alex Wetton and Fizz Scarratt, recently headed to Oxford University to take their place amongst some of the best youth debaters in the world at Finals Day.

Finals Day sees the 100 best debating teams

in the Oxford Union Schools Debating Competition congregate at the Oxford University Union to compete for the title in four final rounds of debating.

This year, competition to get to the finals had been particularly fierce, with more than 1,000 teams from 10 different countries competing to qualify.

Staff at the Marches said for a team of novice debaters to reach this stage was quite an extraordinary feat.

They said Alex and Fizz embraced the day and the challenges that lay ahead with a combined air of wonder and anticipation and everyone thoroughly enjoyed watching the semi-final debate with Eton A, a showdown that clearly demonstrated what years of training and experience can produce. The Marches team is now looking forward to putting everything they learnt into practice for next year's competition.

Vikki Vicars, a history and law teacher at the school who runs the Sixth Form Debating Team, said: "Considering we debate for one

hour per week and most of these schools have a full programme for debating built into their curriculum is quite amazing."

"There were moments when our debaters were outclassed due to the sheer experience of some of the other teams but they were not fazed by the competition and took each round as it came."

North Shropshire College's Walford Campus held its annual Spring Lambing Day and it proved to be a jam-packed event with many displays from external exhibitors and college staff and students.

The college had over 3,500 visitors on Spring Lambing Day, many coming to meet the new lambs but also to see the dog agility display from Whitchurch Dog Display Team, Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service's Baschurch fire engine, milking displays with the Walford cows, RDA vaulting and mounted games at the equine arena and the college's 99 animal species at the Harris Centre.

The Derwen College, based at Gobowen near

Oswestry, sold cakes and other refreshments from their farmers market.

Meanwhile, college sports lecturer Paul Clark will be running in the 2016 London Marathon. The marathon takes place on Sunday and Paul is running for the charity Children with Cancer.

He will be running with his brother Mike who works in a children's cancer unit in Liverpool.

Paul said: "After working around the Children's Cancer Unit in Liverpool Hospital, my brother was witness to some very emotional and sad events."

"No parent should ever have to lose a child, especially to cancer, this has inspired us to raise £3,000 for the charity."

"The outfit we have been given to run in is based on superheroes, so will be running in capes for a bit of fun, please donate even if it's a small amount, every penny counts."

Donate to Paul and Mike's marathon effort by following the link: <http://goo.gl/3TfHA9>.

# Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



## Attractive edge of village property has large garden

A most attractive edge of village house, Hyde Park, Little London Lane, Trefonen near Oswestry, is situated in a large garden. The property enjoys an uninterrupted south facing aspect and is on the market with a guide price of £450,000 through JJ Dell&Co. There is no chain. Accommodation includes a reception hall, cloakroom, lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen and utility room.

There are also four bedrooms, ensuite, double garaging/workshop, outside store and office and a large garden. The home benefits from oil fired central heating and double glazing. For more information contact JJ Dell&Co on (01691) 653437 and 680212.

## Character property has stunning gardens

Brynhfyrd, Cefn Canol, Oswestry, is a character house with flexible accommodation in around 2.3 acres.

It is for sale through Woodhead Sales & Lettings at £449,950. There is the possibility to have a self-contained annexe with a kitchen and bathroom or to use the whole property as a family home. There are stunning gardens with a selection of mature choice plants as well as three ponds fed by a natural spring. There are three greenhouses as well as a commercial sized greenhouse and a wildlife meadow. This is a unique property that

needs to be viewed to be appreciated. It is understood the building dates back to 1838 and it has been in the same family for 43 years. It has an entrance porch, a lean to utility room, a kitchen, a conservatory and a scullery. The living room has French doors to a covered sun room, a stone inglenook fireplace with a log burner. There is also a brewery, inner hallway and a snug, a dining room with an inglenook fireplace with exposed beams and a bathroom with part tiled walls and exposed beams and a tiled floor. The first floor landing has exposed beams. On this floor is a further kitchen

with oak units, bedroom four with an exposed stone wall, a study/bedroom five with a fireplace with an open grate and exposed beams, bedroom two with exposed beams, an inner landing/study area, master bedroom, bedroom three with a wash hand basin, a second bathroom with a white suite. There are gardens with an ornamental pond, three ponds and garden outbuildings that have been used as a nursery in the past and a paddock and parking. For further information contact Woodhead Sales & Lettings on 01691 680044 or visit [www.woodheadsalesandlettings.com](http://www.woodheadsalesandlettings.com)



## Stunning conversion enjoys fantastic countryside views

A stunning detached barn conversion with flexible accommodation, View Barn, Marton near Welshpool, has delightful grounds and some of the most spectacular views in the area. The property is on the market through Strutt & Parker with a guide price of £525,000. Accommodation includes reception hall, kitchen/dining/sitting room, utility room, sitting room and four/five bedrooms. There is also a games room/bedroom five, three bath/shower rooms, one which is ensuite, and a study/snug. Outside there is a double garage, log stores and garden. View Barn is a beautifully converted part-stone, part-timber property occupying the most fantastic elevated position above the village of Marton, with phenomenal south facing views towards the Stiperstones. For more information contact Strutt & Parker on 01743 284200.



01691 659951  
[www.samuelwood.co.uk](http://www.samuelwood.co.uk)



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## Stone cottage is exceptionally well appointed

An exceptionally well appointed semi-detached traditional Welsh stone cottage with attractive river terrace garden, Pendil Cottage at Rhodycroesau near Oswestry is on the market through JJ Dell&Co with a guide price of £189,500. The property benefits from separate garaging and has a workshop and sun room. The property also benefits from oil fired central heating and upvc double glazing. Accommodation comprises a sitting room, a fitted dining kitchen, two bedrooms and a bathroom. There is also a workshop, attractive gardens, a garage and a small summer house. There is no chain and the property is about three and a half miles from Oswestry. The property occupies an attractive corner position in Rhodycroesau, a small rural residential hamlet with church and village hall. For more details contact JJ Dell&Co on (01691) 653437 and 680212.

**J.J. DELL & Co.**



## Highly desirable family home in popular village

A highly desirable two storey four bedroomeed family home within the popular village of Guilsfield, Oak House is on the market through Halls for £385,000.

Situated on a generous plot the property is within a short walking distance of all village amenities. The property is spacious, beautifully presented with contemporary fixtures and fittings, together with the benefit of central heating and double glazing throughout.

The accommodation provides for entrance hall with doors off to study, ground floor WC, dining room, main reception room, a well fitted kitchen with Rangemaster range cooker and central island, breakfast area and snug. A central staircase leads up to a galleried landing area with doors off to the master bedroom, with en-suite bathroom, three further double bedrooms and the family shower room. For more information contact Halls on 01938 555552.

**Halls** 1845



## Country cottage benefits from outstanding views

An attractive three-bedroomeed detached country cottage in 1.7 acres within the picturesque hamlet of Rhiwlas seven miles from Oswestry, Tyn Y Celyn has outstanding views over unspoilt countryside. With a privately owned driveway, it is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson at £360,000. With oil central heating and double glazing the house itself retains some original features. Its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall, lounge, dining room, conservatory, kitchen, cloakroom, three bedrooms and a family bathroom. Outside there is a range of outbuilding including a double garage/workshop, a barn and wash room (with electric and water supplies). The property stands in mature gardens with an adjoining paddock ideal for agriculture, equine or recreational uses.

For further information contact Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 or visit [www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk](http://www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk)

**Bowen Son and Watson**



## Family home is constructed to a high standard

Plas-Y-Don at Cefn Trewern, comprises a superb detached 3-4 bedroom family home constructed to a very high standard in 2005/06, and offering spacious and adaptable accommodation on two floors. It is on the market through Halls for £280,000. The property is beautifully presented and in excellent decorative order throughout. In brief the accommodation provides for a storm porch, a large reception hall, sitting room, study/fourth bedroom with adjacent shower room, superb spacious kitchen/dining/living room with quality fully fitted kitchen, French doors leading out to side elevation gardens with magnificent countryside views, snug, utility and boiler room. On the first floor, there is a master bedroom having the benefit of an en-suite shower room, two further double bedrooms each with 'his and her' fitted wardrobes and a generous sized family bathroom. For more information contact Halls on 01938 555552.

**Halls** 1845

Unique coverage across Shropshire, North & Mid Wales and into Cheshire

**Bowen Son  
and Watson**



**Weaver Close  
Oswestry**



£195,000



**Castle Street  
Oswestry** £105,000

- A deceptively spacious 2 Bedroom End Terrace House
- The property contains a host of original features
- Including stripped floors, brick feature walls and exposed beams.
- Entrance Hall, Living Room and Kitchen
- 2 good size Bed Rooms, Bathroom and additional Attic Room
- Slender area to the front.
- Gas fired central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating



**Rhiwlas  
Oswestry**

£360,000



**Weston Road  
Morda** PRICES FROM £123,950

- PRICES FROM £123,950
- Oakwood Grange is a small residential development
- Plot 1 is a spacious 2 bedroom semi-detached house
- Open plan Lounge/Kitchen, Cloakroom, 2 Bedrooms & Bathroom.
- Gas central heating and double glazing will be installed as standard
- All properties will come with a 10 year warranty
- Anticipated completion late Summer 2016.



**Station Road  
Llanymynech**

£99,995



**Maes Yr Ysgol  
Llanfechain** £174,995

- A delightful 2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Conveniently located in a quiet cul-de-sac
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Rear Porch
- 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom.
- Lawned gardens to front and rear.
- A tarmac driveway and garage provide ample off-road parking
- Oil central heating and uPVC double glazed windows and doors



**Henley Drive  
Oswestry**

£169,500



**Laburnum Drive  
Oswestry** £136,995

- A deceptively spacious 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House
- Maintained to a high standard throughout
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room, Utility & Cloaks
- 2 good size Bed Rooms and a Family Bathroom
- A large enclosed rear garden, further lawned garden and driveway
- Gas central heating and double glazing are installed throughout



**Telford Avenue  
Chirk Bank**

£204,995



**Fitzgwarine Drive  
Whittington** £224,995

- An immaculately presented 4 bedroom Detached Family Home
- Situated in a sought after location in the popular village of Whittington
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Family Room
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility, Cloakroom,
- Master Bedroom (en-suite), 3 further bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- Good size rear garden, driveway and single garage
- Double glazing and gas central heating together with a burglar alarm



**Abraham Court  
Oswestry**

£104,950



**Great Ness  
Shrewsbury** £350,000

- Grade II Listed Period Property
- Sympathetically restored, mature gardens
- Lounge, Living Room, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Utility & Shower Room
- 3 large bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- A further 2 BedRooms and a Study

## Oswestry

01691 652367

35 Bailey Street, Oswestry, SY11 1PX  
oswestry@bowensonandwatson.co.uk

## Ellesmere

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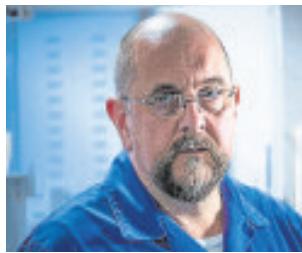
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and Watson**

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**Casualty**

8.55pm

Big Mac's painkiller dependency is starting to take its toll on his health, and when the drugs he stole are reported as missing, he realises it is time to admit he has a problem. Charlie informs Rita a number of complaints have been made, but when she investigates, she realises none of the offended patients exist.

**Live Snooker: The World Championship**

7pm

Hazel Irvine introduces coverage of the third and final session on day eight at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. Mark Selby's chances of retaining the title disappeared at this stage last year, when he lost to the unseeded Anthony McGill.

**Britain's Got Talent**

8pm

The nationwide talent search continues as Ant and Dec host the third round of auditions, in which more members of the public are invited to display their extraordinary talents, in an attempt to win the approval of judges Simon Cowell, Alesha Dixon, Amanda Holden and David Walliams.

**Homes by the Med**

5.30pm

Charlie Luxton takes the coastal property showcase to the sun-kissed beaches of the Mediterranean. He begins on the rugged coastline of Costa Brava in Catalonia, Spain, where he visits a surreal, abstract home made up of 10 interlocking cubes of white render and reinforced glass.

**NCIS: New Orleans**

7.05pm

A US Marine, a waitress and a chef are shot dead at a diner, in what is thought to be a bungled robbery. However, when the team arrives to investigate, a previously unknown witness emerges from the eatery's freezer, claiming the killer had an unusual tattoo. Lucas Black and Scott Bakula star.

**BBC1**

- 6.00 Breakfast.
- 10.00 **Saturday Kitchen Live.** Johnny Vegas faces food heaven or hell.
- 11.30 **MasterChef.** The nine remaining cooks vie to reach the semi-finals. (R)
- 12.00 **BBC News;** Weather.
- 12.10 **Football Focus.** Dan Walker and guests look ahead to the FA Cup semi-finals.
- 1.00 **The London Marathon - A Million Reasons to Run.** Meeting those who have been inspired to run the famous race for charity.
- 1.30 **Live Snooker: The World Championship.** Hazel Irvine presents as the eighth day's play continues at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, including the concluding session of one second-round match.
- 4.30 **BBC News.**
- 4.40 **Midlands Today;** Weather.
- 4.50 **MOTD: Live FA Cup Semi-Final.** Everton v Manchester United (Kick-off 5.15pm).
- 7.15 **Michael McIntyre's Big Show.** The comedian introduces performances by Josh Widdicombe, Bryan Adams, Jess Glynne and acrobatics duo Chilly and Fly. Plus Ronan Keating takes part in Celebrity Sent To All.
- 8.05 **The National Lottery: Win Your Wish List.** Glasgow couple James and Karisse seek to win prizes from their personal wish list, and Julian Ovenden joins Kate Garraway for the Lotto and Thunderball draw.
- 8.55 **Casualty.** Big Mac's painkiller dependency starts to take its toll on his health, and Rita receives a number of complaints from nonexistent patients. Medical drama, starring Charles Dale.
- 9.45 **Mrs Brown's Boys.** Trevor has decided to work for a mission project in Africa, so Agnes resolves to give him an unforgettable send-off, while Cathy's family counselling session descends into chaos. (R)
- 10.15 **BBC News;** Weather.
- 10.35 **Match of the Day.** Mark Chapman presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, featuring Aston Villa v Southampton, Bournemouth v Chelsea and Liverpool v Newcastle United; **National Lottery Update.**
- 11.35 **Peter Kay's Comedy Shuffle.** The comedian looks back over his career, introducing clips from his TV shows, highlights from his numerous chat show appearances and his music videos. (R)
- 12.05 **The London Marathon - A Million Reasons to Run.** Gabby Logan investigates the stories of various runners, fundraisers and enthusiasts, who explain what inspired them to participate in the London Marathon. (R)
- 12.35 **Snooker: World Championship Extra.** Jason Mohammad presents extended highlights of matches from the second round on the eighth day at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield.
- 3.35 **World Snooker: Crucible Classics.** Jimmy White v Stephen Hendry. Hazel Irvine introduces action from the 1994 World Championship final; **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
- 5.40 **BBC News.**

**BBC2**

- 7.55 **FILM: Fort Apache (1948).** Western, starring Henry Fonda and John Wayne.
- 10.00 **Live Snooker: The World Championship.** Day eight gets underway in Sheffield.
- 12.00 **Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul.** Rick cooks an iconic Turkish dish. (R)
- 1.00 **Bargain Hunt.** Two teams compete in Edinburgh. (R)
- 2.00 **Escape to the Country.** Nicki Chapman helps a couple find a home in Dorset. (R)
- 2.45 **Money for Nothing.** Sarah Moore saves three items from the recycling centre in Witley, Surrey. (R)
- 3.30 **The Hairy Bikers' Pubs That Built Britain.** Si King and Dave Myers examine the hidden history of the nation's inns. (R)
- 4.00 **Gardeners' World.** Monty Don gets his new vegetable patch under way. (R)
- 4.30 **Final Score.** Round-up of football results.
- 5.15 **Flog It!** From Richmond, North Yorkshire. (R)
- 6.00 **Bake Off: Creme de la Creme.** Tom Kerridge welcomes three more teams of pastry chefs, and their challenges include making an Italian pastry called Sfogliatelle, and Sticky Toffee Pudding. (R)
- 7.00 **Live Snooker: The World Championship.** Hazel Irvine introduces coverage of the third and final session on day eight at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where another second-round match is set to conclude.
- 8.00 **Dad's Army.** Mainwaring is accused of leaving a light burning in the church hall during a blackout, and receives a summons to appear in court. Comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. (R)
- 8.30 **Shakespeare Live! From the RSC.** David Tennant and a host of performing arts luminaries celebrate the life, work and legacy of William Shakespeare at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon.
- 10.30 **QI XL.** Extended edition. The Rev Richard Coles, Sara Pascoe, Bill Bailey and Alan Davies try to answer host Stephen Fry's questions on L-themed larks – a "Liblable" as he calls it.
- 11.15 **Snooker: The World Championship.** Highlights of the concluding session on day eight at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where another second-round match was scheduled to conclude.
- 12.05 **FILM: Mesrine: Killer Instinct (2008).** The first of a two-part fact-based French crime thriller following the early criminal career of the notorious gangster. With Vincent Cassel, Cecile De France and Romesh Ranganathan for the topical comedy challenge show.
- 10.00 **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.
- 10.15 **FILM: The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (2006).** An American teenager living in Japan gets involved in illegal street racing, but ends up owing money to gangsters. Action adventure, starring Lucas Black and Nathalie Kelley.
- 12.10 **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
- 3.00 **Murder, She Wrote. (R)**
- 3.50 **ITV Nightscreen.** Text-based information service.

**ITV**

- 6.00 **CITV: Bottom Knocker Street 6.15** Bottom Knocker Street **6.25** Pat & Stan **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story **7.05** Sooty **7.15** Super 4 **7.30** Nerds & Monsters **7.45** The Tom & Jerry Show **8.00** Thunderbirds Are Go **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. With Anne Archer, Richard Kind and The Feeling. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. Jessica investigates an old murder case. (R) **10.15** Murder, She Wrote. One of Jessica's former students solves a murder. (R) **11.15** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. The host takes his successful talk show statewide. **12.05** ITV News and Weather; Weather. **12.15** The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R) **1.15** Planet's Got Talent. A rapping grandmother, a human Ken doll and obscene dancing. (R) **1.45** BBQ Champ. Eight amateur barbecueers take on a series of cooking challenges. (R) **2.45** FILM: Beethoven (1992). A family man is horrified at the chaos caused by his kids' huge St Bernard, but has a change of heart when the dog is kidnapped. Comedy, starring Charles Grodin and Bonnie Hunt. **4.25** The Wine Show. Matthew Goode and Matthew Rhys travel to Montalcino. **5.30** ITV News Central; Weather. **5.40** You've Been Framed! Bites Back! Harry Hill presents another hour-long special, this time showcasing embarrassing home-videos alongside clips that "take a bite" out of celebrity culture. **7.00** Bang on the Money. Teams from Essex and Newcastle battle it out to hit a specific target number "bang on" in a series of physical and mental challenges. **8.00** Britain's Got Talent. The third round of auditions gets underway as more members of the public display their extraordinary talents to judges Simon Cowell, Alesha Dixon, Amanda Holden and David Walliams. **9.15** Play to the Whistle. Professional boxer Anthony Joshua and comedians Kevin Bridges and Jon Richardson join Frank Lampard, Bradley Walsh and Romesh Ranganathan for the topical comedy challenge show. **10.00** **ITV News and Weather;** Weather. **10.15** **FILM: The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (2006).** An American teenager living in Japan gets involved in illegal street racing, but ends up owing money to gangsters. Action adventure, starring Lucas Black and Nathalie Kelley. **12.10** Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.00** **Murder, She Wrote. (R)** **3.50** **ITV Nightscreen.** Text-based information service.

**Channel 4**

- 6.10 **Greater Manchester Marathon.** Coverage of the annual marathon. **6.40** British GT Championship. Action from Brands Hatch. **7.05** Brighton Marathon 2016. Action from the annual race. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. Debra's parents join the Barones for Thanksgiving. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. Robert is mistaken for Raymond. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. From Sandown Park and Ballydoyle. **10.00** Frasier. Niles hits the airwaves. (R) **10.30** Frasier. Daphne's boyfriend dumps her. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. Sheldon becomes terrified of getting his hair cut. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. Amy is disappointed by Sheldon. (R) **11.55** The Simpsons. Homer invents a new drink. (R) **12.25** The Simpsons. Homer takes the family to New York. (R) **12.55** Come Dine with Me. Four amateur chefs from Stamford, Lincolnshire, compete. (R) **2.00** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park, Ripon and Haydock Park. **4.30** A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun. A retired couple seek a home in Spain's Almeria Province. **5.30** Homes by the Med. New series. Visiting the best homes by the sea in Spain. **6.30** Channel 4 News. **7.00** The Secret World of Lego. Documentary going behind the scenes at the toy company, following a design student as he seeks a coveted position with the company and two fans hatching money-making schemes. (R) **8.00** Arnie Schwarzenegger's 50 Greatest Ever Stunts. The actor examines the most spectacular stunts committed to film, ranking Hollywood set-pieces alongside standalone feats such as Felix Baumgartner's free fall to Earth. **9.30** FILM: The Transporter (2002). An underworld courier ends up in a battle of wits with his powerful employers when he lets his conscience get the better of him. Action adventure, with Jason Statham and Shu Qi. **11.20** FILM: Contraband (2012). A reformed international smuggler must return to his old line of work to save his family from a ruthless drug lord. Crime thriller, starring Mark Wahlberg and Kate Beckinsale. **1.20** Hollyoaks. The Osbornes receive another blackmail note. (R) **3.30** Tricks of the Restaurant Trade. The team puts British pizzas to the test. (R) **3.55** Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb. Three rivals in Wolverhampton compete to sell their homes. **4.50** Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free. (R) **5.00** Fifteen to One. General knowledge quiz. (R) **5.55** The King of Queens. Doug and Carrie celebrate their anniversary. (R)

**Channel 5**

- 6.00 **Milkshake!** Peppa Pig **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas **6.15** Angelina Ballerina **6.30** Bob the Builder **6.45** Ticket To **6.55** Zack and Quack **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too **7.15** Noddy in Toyland **7.25** Paw Patrol **7.40** Little Princess **7.55** Pip Ahoy! **8.05** Blaze and the Monster Machines **8.30** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom **8.45** Wanda and the Alien **8.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **9.30** The Saturday Show Live. **11.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.25** Police Interceptors. A speeding motorist causes chaos after crashing into a gas main. (R) **1.20** Police Interceptors. Sgt Carlin uncovers a major criminal operation. (R) **2.15** Police Interceptors. Kev pepper-sprays a suspect resisting arrest. (R) **3.10** Now That's Funny! Failed celebrations and dinosaur attacks. (R) **4.15** Now That's Funny! Internet-sourced videos with an amusing family friendly hook. (R) **5.15** Toddlers Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **6.10** NCIS: Los Angeles. **7.05** NCIS: New Orleans. A US Marine, a waitress and a chef are shot dead at a diner, and LaSalle realises the culprit may be the same killer he and Pride failed to catch during their first case together. **8.00** NCIS. McGee deals with his father's recent death by writing him a letter detailing a case in which he and Abby tried to catch cyber-terrorists responsible for a city-wide internet outage. **8.55** 5 News Weekend. **9.00** The Championship: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's matches from the Championship, including Derby County v Sheffield Wednesday, and Hull City v Leeds United. **10.00** Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present a round-up of the latest matches in League One and League Two, including Wigan Athletic v Southend United, and Bristol Rovers v Exeter City. **10.30** NCIS: Greatest Ever Episodes. The murder of a marine's wife is shown live on the internet and inquiries point to two housewives who were running their own pornographic website, but have since vanished. (R) **11.25** NCIS: Greatest Ever Episodes. A six-year-old boy claims his father has been kidnapped, and the agents learn the missing man is a lieutenant commander who has been working on a confidential report. (R) **12.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Best of Bad TV. (R) **4.20** Criminals: Caught on Camera. (R) **4.50** Divine Designs. (R) **5.10** HouseBusters. (R) **5.35** Access. **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.50** Angels of Jarm. (R)


**Antiques Roadshow**
*8pm*

Fiona Bruce presents the show from Trentham Gardens near Stoke-on-Trent, where the experts value a selection of rare finds from the region's historic potteries, including a portable road map. Plus, Fiona is challenged to spot the cheap imitation in a collection of gold necklaces.


**Natural Born Winners**
*8pm*

Donovan Bailey, Gareth Thomas, Iwan Thomas and James Toseland complete their world tour in Japan, where they learn Yabusame, the ancient art of horseback archery. The sportsmen must ride a horse down a straight track at high speed, controlling the animal using their knees.


**Home Fires**
*9pm*

Pat and Marek are reconciled, but when someone sees them, their relationship is in more danger than ever. The Brindleys come to realise the full extent of David's injuries, and Teresa faces letting go of the past when she is asked out. Alison fears the consequences of her involvement with the Lyons.


**Indian Summers**
*9pm*

The Maharajah returns to Simla, and offers Ralph his political support – at a price. Ralph is forced to consider how far he is prepared to go to achieve his ambitions. Sarah also returns to help with the aftermath of the bombing, and her appearance prompts Cynthia to reveal a secret from her past.


**Penn & Teller: Fool Us in Vegas**
*8pm*

The duo try to spot the method behind more illusions, casting an eye over acts involving doves, ropes and a can of fizzy drink, as well as a performance by the magician who appeared at President Obama's inaugural ball. Finally, Penn and Teller play a prank on an audience member using a ring.

**BBC1**

- 6.00 Breakfast.**
- 7.40 Match of the Day.** Including highlights of Bournemouth v Chelsea. (R)
- 8.30 London Marathon.** Live coverage of the 36th staging of the annual event.
- 1.30 BBC News.**
- 1.40 Sunday Politics West Midlands.** Presented by Andrew Neil.
- 2.50 The Day I Met the Queen.** Compilation of stories of people who met Elizabeth II. (R)
- 3.50 Songs of Praise.** The grand final of the School Choir of the Year competition.
- 4.35 Elizabeth at 90 – A Family Tribute.** Birthday celebration using the Queen's personal home movie collection. (R)
- 6.05 Paul O'Grady: The Sally Army and Me.** The presenter returns to Liverpool, where he first encountered the Salvation Army while working as a care officer, and helps a woman whose life has been ruined by drug addiction.
- 6.35 BBC News.**
- 6.50 Midlands Today; Weather.**
- 7.00 Countryfile.** The team looks at the landscapes across Britain that inspired Shakespeare, while John Craven is joined by Judi Dench to visit a town in Kent where the Bard's company performed. Including Weather For The Week Ahead.
- 8.00 Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce presents the show from Trentham Gardens near Stoke-on-Trent, where the experts value a selection of rare finds from the region's historic potteries.
- 9.00 Undercover.** Nick resorts to a devastating lie to protect his secret. Maya searches for the missing witness, which leads to a shocking collision between her personal and professional lives.
- 10.00 BBC News.**
- 10.20 Midlands Today; Weather.**
- 10.30 Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Leicester City v Swansea City, Sunderland v Arsenal and Manchester City v Stoke City.
- 11.40 MOTD: FA Cup Highlights.** Crystal Palace v Watford. Action from the semi-final at Wembley Stadium, as the clubs aimed to reach the final for the first time since 1990 and 1984 respectively.
- 12.10 Would I Lie to You?** TV presenter Gabby Logan, comedian Andy Hamilton, Dr Christian Jessen and EastEnders Diane Parish join David Mitchell and Lee Mack on the comedy panel show hosted by Rob Brydon. (R)
- 12.40 Snooker: World Championship Extra.** Jason Mohammad presents extended highlights of matches from the second round on the ninth day of the prestigious tournament at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield.
- 3.40 World Snooker: Crucible Classics.** Stephen Hendry v Ronnie O'Sullivan. Hazel Irvine introduces action from the semi-final at the 2002 World Championship, staged at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield.
- 5.40 Weather for the Week Ahead.**
- 5.45 BBC News.**

**BBC2**

- 6.30 Gardeners' World.** Monty Don gets his new vegetable patch under way. (R)
- 7.00 An Island Parish.** The Rev David Cooper oversees the renovations to his retirement home. (R)
- 7.30 The Beechgrove Garden.** Jim McColl tackles a lawn which has turned a washed-out yellow colour.
- 8.00 Countryfile.** Joe Crowley and Anita Rani visit Dumfries and Galloway. (R)
- 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.**
- 10.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship.** The opening session on day nine at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield.
- 12.15 MOTD2 Extra.** With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team; **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
- 1.15 Points of View.** Jeremy Vine presents a selection of viewers' comments.
- 1.30 London Marathon.** Further live coverage of the 36th staging of the annual event.
- 3.45 Live Snooker: The World Championship.** The afternoon session on day nine at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield.
- 6.00 London Marathon Highlights.** Ore Oduba presents action from the 36th staging of the annual event, which saw approximately 38,000 runners take on the famous 26.2-mile course.
- 7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship.** Jason Mohammad presents coverage of the evening's play on day nine at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, featuring the second sessions of two matches in the second round.
- 8.00 Natural Born Winners.** Donovan Bailey, Gareth Thomas, Iwan Thomas and James Toseland finish their world tour in Japan, where they learn Yabusame, the ancient art of horseback archery. Last in the series.
- 9.00 Louis Theroux – Drinking to Oblivion.** The reporter visits the liver centre at King's College Hospital, London, and meets alcoholics in need of special treatment as well as their families and the doctors helping them.
- 10.00 FILM: Half of a Yellow Sun (2013).** Premiere. Two sisters pursue separate lives in newly-liberated Nigeria, only to get caught up in the civil war. Drama, starring Thandie Newton, Anika Noni Rose and Chiwetel Ejiofor.
- 11.45 Snooker: The World Championship.** Jason Mohammad presents highlights of the concluding session on day nine at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where the second round continued with two more matches.
- 12.35 The People v OJ Simpson: American Crime Story.** The jury reaches a verdict and the outcome triggers recriminations and regrets for some participants and simple celebrations for others. Cuba Gooding Jr stars. Last in the series. (R)
- 1.40 Sign Zone: Countryfile.** Joe Crowley and Anita Rani visit Dumfries and Galloway. (R)
- 2.35 Sign Zone: Holby City.** Bernie finds herself working alongside an old army colleague. (R)
- 3.35 This Is BBC2.**

**ITV**

- 6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street 6.15** Bottom Knocker Street **6.25 Pat & Stan**
- 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures 6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures **7.00 Signed Stories: Share a Story 7.05** Sooty 7.15 Super 4 **7.30 Nerds & Monsters 7.45** The Tom & Jerry Show **8.00 Teen Titans Go!**
- 8.25 ITV News.**
- 8.30 Weekend.** With Jimmy Osmond and Adrian Dunbar.
- 9.25 FIA Formula E Championship.** The Paris ePrix.
- 10.20 Murder, She Wrote.** Jessica investigates a suspicious suicide. (R)
- 11.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)
- 12.20 ITV News and Weather;** Weather.
- 12.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)
- 1.30 All Star Family Fortunes.** With Birds of a Feather star Lesley Joseph and comedian Stephen K Amos. (R)
- 2.15 Fierce.** Steve Backshall seeks out the world's most fierce animals. (R)
- 3.15 Britain's Got Talent.** The third round of auditions gets under way. (R)
- 4.35 Midsomer Murders.** Barnaby investigates wedding-themed murders. With Pam Ferris and Kacey Ainsworth. (R)
- 6.30 ITV News Central;** Weather.
- 6.40 ITV News and Weather.**
- 6.55 The Chase Celebrity Special.** Nina Wadia, Linford Christie, Sarah Harding and Tyger Drew-Honey answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to secure a cash prize for charity. With Bradley Walsh.
- 8.00 The Durrells.** Louisa takes desperate measures when Leslie is accused of armed robbery, and Gerry turns his bedroom into a centre for scientific learning. Guest starring Leslie Caron.
- 9.00 Home Fires.** Pat and Marek's relationship is in danger when someone sees them together. The full extent of David's injuries becomes apparent, and Teresa faces letting go of the past.
- 10.00 ITV News and Weather;** Weather.
- 10.15 Flying Scotsman with Robson Green.** The presenter spends a year working with the team of engineers who have been commissioned to rebuild the most famous steam engine in the world. (R)
- 11.15 Murder, She Wrote.** An old friend of Jessica's dies and the heir to a fortune, who has been missing for more than 20 years, makes a sudden reappearance. Angela Lansbury stars. (R)
- 12.15 Jackpot247.** Visitors get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
- 2.30 Motorsport UK.** Highlights from Brands Hatch, featuring the Porsche Carrera Cup and Ginetta Junior Championship.
- 3.20 ITV Nightscreen.** Text-based information service.
- 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues, and provides them with his own brand of no-nonsense advice. (R)

**Channel 4**

- 6.20 The King of Queens.** Doug invites Arthur on a night out. (R)
- 6.45 The King of Queens.** Carrie sells her engagement ring. (R)
- 7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond.** Frank causes trouble by stealing a football. (R)
- 7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond.** Marie tries to make her family look good. (R)
- 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond.** Debra relinquishes some of her power. (R)
- 8.30 Frasier.** Lilith and Frasier meet again. (R)
- 9.00 Frasier.** Martin buys Frasier an expensive gift. (R)
- 9.30 Sunday Brunch.** With Simon Callow, Katherine Jenkins, Gregory Porter, Nicholas Pinnock and Jimmy Doherty.
- 12.30 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces.** A project to transform a Victorian railway signal box into a summerhouse. (R)
- 1.30 FILM: Maid in Manhattan (2002).** Romantic comedy, with Jennifer Lopez and Ralph Fiennes.
- 3.35 Location, Location, Location.** Revisiting house-hunters in Sussex and Reading, Berkshire. (R)
- 4.35 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun.** A couple from Yorkshire seek a retirement home in Barbados.
- 5.35 Channel 4 News.**
- 6.05 Grand Designs: Living in Suburbia.** Kevin McCloud reveals how self-builders are transforming the suburbs, drawing on the best examples from 15 years of the show and talking to experts in architectural thinking. (R)
- 7.00 The Fearless Chef.** Kiran Jethwa goes to Ethiopia's Danakil Depression, one of the hottest places on Earth, to mine for salt. He also attempts to make ice cream in temperatures of 52C.
- 8.00 The Mystery of the Crossrail Skulls.** Documentary examining the discovery of dozens of Roman-era skulls beneath London's Liverpool Street station and the theories that have developed about who they belonged to.
- 9.00 Indian Summers.** Ralph is forced to decide how far he is prepared to go to achieve his political goals when the Maharajah offers him a deal. Cynthia reveals a secret from her past.
- 10.00 Gogglebox.** Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (R)
- 11.05 FILM: The Lincoln Lawyer (2011).** A cynical lawyer who operates out of his car takes on the profitable case of defending a rich man accused of rape. However, he begins to suspect his client may be guilty of not only this attack, but an earlier rape case for which another man is currently in prison. Thriller, starring Matthew McConaughey, Marisa Tomei, Ryan Phillippe and William H Macy.
- 1.10 Embarrassing Bodies Down Under.** (R)
- 2.00 Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 2.30 Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 2.55 Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 3.20 Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 3.45 Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 4.15 Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb.**

**Channel 5**

- 6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig 6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas **6.20 Angelina Ballerina**
- 6.35 Bob the Builder 6.45** Tictoc Toc
- 6.55 Zack and Quack 7.10** Pets 7.15 Noddy in Toyland **7.25 Paw Patrol 7.40** Little Princess **7.55 Pip Ahoy! 8.10** Blaze and the Monster Machines 8.35 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom **8.50** Wanda and the Alien **9.00** Toby's Travelling Circus **9.15** Jelly Jamm **9.35** LazyTown
- 9.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** The Turtles travel back in time.
- 10.30 The Championship: Football League Tonight.** Highlights and all the goals from the Championship. (R)
- 11.30 Goal Rush: Football League Tonight.** A round-up of all the goals from League One and League Two. (R)
- 12.00 The Gadget Show.** The latest additions to the Bentley motor company's high-quality line. (R)
- 1.00 Grannies Make You Laugh Out Loud.** Internet videos featuring pensioners doing bizarre and humorous things. (R)
- 2.00 Budgies Make You Laugh Out Loud.** Internet clips featuring the antics of budgies and other birds. (R)
- 3.00 FILM: What to Expect When You're Expecting (2012).** Comedy drama, starring Cameron Diaz.
- 5.00 FILM: Miss Congeniality (2000).** Comedy, starring Sandra Bullock.
- 7.00 Now That's Funny!** Videos of people having very bad days and painful accidents at the US National ping pong championships.
- 8.00 Penn & Teller: Fool Us in Vegas.** A selection of illusions involving doves, ropes and a can of fizzy drink are put to the test, while Penn and Teller play a prank on an audience member using a ring.
- 8.55 5 News Weekend.**
- 9.00 FILM: Runner Runner (2013).** Premiere. A student becomes the protege of a corrupt gambling tycoon in Costa Rica, only to come under pressure from the FBI. Crime thriller, with Justin Timberlake and Ben Affleck.
- 10.40 FILM: Cradle 2 the Grave (2003).** A Taiwanese undercover agent helps a master jewel thief track down the international crimelord who has kidnapped his daughter. Action thriller, with Jet Li, DMX and Mark Dacascos.
- 12.45 Criminals: Caught on Camera.** Nick Wallis discovers how CCTV and technological advances are helping to tackle criminals exhibiting a complete disregard for the safety of others while at the wheel of a vehicle. (R)
- 1.10 SuperCasino.** Live interactive gaming.
- 3.10 World War II in Colour.** The struggle to defeat Japan. (R)
- 4.00 Wildlife SOS.** The work of an animal sanctuary. (R)
- 4.25 Wildlife SOS.** The work of a wildlife sanctuary. (R)
- 4.50 Great Artists.** The life and work of Rembrandt. (R)
- 5.15 Divine Designs.** Church architecture during the 16th and 17th centuries. (R)
- 5.45 Angels of Jarm.** (R)
- 5.50 Angels of Jarm.** (R)

# Listen out as chiffchaff makes grand appearance

THERE are few more confoundingly similar birds for an amateur ornithologist to distinguish between than the chiffchaff and the willow warbler.

They are almost identical and at a glance they are inseparable.

I still have great difficulty in differentiating between them which compounds my exasperation because I've always had a soft spot for these little 'leaf warblers'. My late grandmother, who taught me both to paint and to be interested in the smaller, less obvious and slightly more dowdy bird species, was particularly infatuated by the chiffchaff. But aside from the minute facts that the chiffchaff is slightly less yellow, has shorter eyebrows and often has darker legs, the 'easiest' distinction is in the song and now is the time both for the bird and its song to make a grand appearance.

Chiffchaffs are summer visitors to Britain, and are among the first migrant songbirds to arrive in the spring. They winter in the Mediterranean and western Africa although there are over-wintering chiffchaffs from Scandinavia and a few resident birds that stay all year round. They feed on insects, such as midges and other flies, and caterpillars and moths, which they find by foraging in tree canopies and among bushes. Indeed, their Latin name (*Phylloscopus collybita*) points to the habits of this bird rather nicely.

*Phylloscopus* comes from *phyllon* which means leaf and *skopeo* which means explorer and describe the chiffchaff's custom of continuously searching the undersides of leaves for aphids and spiders. As another side note against the willow warbler, that species tends to hunt lower down in shrubs and tall grasses. But surely the crowning

argument for the fact that you've seen a chiffchaff rather than anything else is in its onomatopoeic name.

While the second part of the Latin description, *collybita*, is a corruption of *kollubistes*, which means 'money changer', thus likening the song, slightly more melodiously, to the jingling of coins. The fact that this yellowish green warbler is something of a harbinger of spring means it is often one of the first excitements of a birdwatcher's year yet it soon becomes very hard to spot, with only that song giving its presence away. As spring turns into summer and the foliage gets thicker and thicker, there is more food for the chicks to feed upon (a job that only the female carries out) but there is much less of a chance to clearly see one of these charming little birds. One feeding event may help you however; the annual glut of St Mark's flies around the 25th of this month. The population of chiffchaffs in Britain fell in the 1960s and 1970s owing to harsh conditions in and around the Sahara. Since then their numbers have recovered and are now stable or even slightly increasing, possibly because of milder winters and this year certainly won't have hampered their efforts much on that front. So why not dig out the binoculars and train your eyes on a chiffchaff or willow warbler? With the dawn chorus clearing its throat, I might even be able to tell the difference!

Find Ben on Facebook at: [facebook.com/BenWaddamsWildlifeArtist](https://www.facebook.com/BenWaddamsWildlifeArtist)

## ON THE WILDSIDE

with Ben Waddams



The chiffchaff is a summer visitor to Britain. Picture courtesy of Michel Idre.

## Next stage of £18m electricity upgrade planned

THE next stage of an £18 million scheme to increase the electricity capacity in towns across north Shropshire is set to begin within months.

Scottish Power Energy Networks said consultation about the upgrade, which will benefit Oswestry, Wem and Whitchurch, is set to begin before the summer.

Last year the firm announced it had received Ofgem approval for the reinforcement works, which will increase capacity by up to 20 per cent, or the equivalent of 50,000 homes, by 2022.

Councillors in the towns say improving the electricity supply is desperately needed because of all the new homes and businesses earmarked for the region in the next few years. Paul Ferguson, a spokesman for SP Energy Networks, said: "Plans are progressing well and overall project timescales and investment proposals remain on track."

"We hope to be able to begin the process of consulting with the local communities and the wider stakeholders before this summer."

"We have been considering a range of options and our proposals will be designed to benefit north Shropshire for decades to come."

The lack of electricity supply was put forward as a reason for plans to build energy plants in Whitchurch, including Grootcontinental's proposal for an anaerobic digestion power plant opposite its site on the town's business park.

Gerald Dakin, Shropshire councillor for Whitchurch South, said: "The upgrade is definitely still needed."

"I am concerned about the town. We have bags of industry and homes planned but the electricity is not suitable."

Councillor John Murray, mayor of Wem, said: "It is brilliant news. With the expansion of the town and new homes being built we are going to need the extra power."

"Small market towns have been in the doldrums with utility suppliers for years so it is about time we were upgraded."

Last month it was announced street lights could be dimmed in Wem at night in a cost-cutting move by a town council. Members of Wem Town Council's environment committee have discussed the possibility of converting its non-LED bulbs in street lights to LED dimmers which it hopes could "dramatically reduce energy costs" for the town.

Councillor Murray said: "The town council is looking at replacing the street lights which is a big project to take on. We will replace them with cost effective lights which will be dimmable, and it could save the town council about £10,000 a year."



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## Single Women

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**FEMALE**, 60s, young looking for my age, likes singing, dancing, meals in and out, theatre, fun to be with. Single would like to meet the same. **Text only Mailbox:** 5448634

**KATIE** 35ys, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+. Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel:** 0906 515 3003 **Box:** 419673

**CARING** honest female WLTM genuine guy for LTR in Glos/Bristol area. **Text only Mailbox:** 4209465

**JANE**, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel:** 0906 515 3011 **Box:** 409715

**FEMALE** seeks male to wine and dine me, and treat me like a lady, aged between 50 and 60. **Text only Mailbox:** 5444151

**LUCY** first time advertiser, 32ys, tall slim blonde airline worker, seeks discreet gent, any status for casual fling. Looks/age unimportant. **Tel:** 0906 515 3027 **Box:** 420237

**BROWN** eyed brummie female, smokes, likes music, cinema, meals out. WLTM white male for LTR. **Text only Mailbox:** 4400186

**SOPHIA** young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel:** 0906 515 3019 **Box:** 413399

**SHARON** 49, med to well built, cuddly, young at heart, happy, easygoing, loves the coast and seaside looking for honest friendly male. **Text only Mailbox:** 5444189

**KAREN**, 42yrs, attractive and broadminded, seeks no strings fun with chap any age, must be discreet. **Tel:** 0906 515 3039 **Box:** 407953

**ROSEMARY** early 50s, GSOH, likes meals out, travel, etc looking for man to share these things with. N.S. **Text only Mailbox:** 5079890

**ABIGAIL**, 33yrs, slim sophisticated blonde seeks no strings mutual pleasures with a discreet experienced man married or single. ACA. **Tel:** 0906 515 3015 **Box:** 421339

**CURVY** Irish female 35ys looking for fun, frolics, weekends away and lots of excitement with reliable male, discretion assured. **Tel:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421877

**EMILY**, mature well educated lady, busy and social and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. **Tel:** 0906 515 3023 **Box:** 421375

**MANDY** divorced independent 46ys old, confident, bubbly and social, looking for male companion to share good times and to be there for each other. **Tel:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421841

**ROSIE**, genuine well educated, sophisticated lady 29yrs WLTM fun loving chap, any age for chats, lunch, discreet meetings. **Box:** 4124710 **Text only**

**SUE** 40s female who enjoys evenings in/out looking for someone to have some fun and hopefully get close to go on, give me a ring. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421809

**JAYNE**, bored housewife, 42ys looking for someone to spice up her days with some fun and jokes. **Box:** 4155728 **Text only**

**REBECCA** tall slim elegant long legged romantic, sensual, professional, lots to offer, seeks similar male who also appreciates the finer things in life. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421583

**LOUISE**, 35, loves meals out, WLTM tallish, considerate, mature male who is not frightened to express themselves and enjoy life. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421135

**YVONNE**, single mum, happy with life, but would like to meet someone to share fun times with. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 420269

**ANGELA**, 42, green eyed dark haired feminine lady who enjoys walking and keeping fit, seeking lonely kind gentleman for good times and more. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421115

**MALE**, 59, 5ft2, average build, looking for a genuine, caring lady. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421098

**TOM**, 58, dark hair, 6ft, seeks older mature female. Size and looks not important. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421595

**SHROPSHIRE** trucker, 54, WLTM female, 40-65, black or white, for friendship, fun and hopefully more **Text only Mailbox:** 5411957

**Dominant** Goddess sought by tall slim compliant white male, 50, who WLTM are elegant, sensual, high heeled lady, any age/race. **Text only Mailbox:** 4673363

## Customer support

Call **0207 720 7130** Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm or email us at [support@jmediauk.co.uk](mailto:support@jmediauk.co.uk)

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**MARGARET** 39, dark hair/evening attractive petite divorcee, new to area and looking to start a new life, WLTM child friendly male, single dad welcome. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421129

**ANNA**, 41, new to single life seeking caring professional male for no strings fun, attention and laughter. Life is too short, lets enjoy it! Call me. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421127

**HONEST** sincere affectionate nurse, 48, OHAC, WLTM child friendly male/single dad for dates, chats, laughter and more. Any age. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421567

**ATTRACTIVE**, slim woman looking for fun and excitement with guy 35-40 pls text. **Text only Mailbox:** 541973

**TINA**, 43, young looking attractive single female looking for love, with similar lonely heart resorting to advertising in the hope of finding love. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421455

**MICHELLE** 39y old nurse, petite, blonde, blue eyes, looking enjoy life with similar romantic, caring guy. Single dad welcome. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421613

**MANDY**, 45, friendly outgoing arty female who loves wine/dining, looking for male to sweep me off my feet, take me out and make me feel special, reciprocation guaranteed. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 420153

**DEBS** lonely 40s female with no ties, GSOH, N/S, loves the simple things in life looking for similar soul mate to be happy together. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 420729

**JULIE**, 47, blonde brown eyes, very loves life, music, letting my hair down, looking for similar girl for enjoyment TLC and life. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 420873

**JESSICA**, 39, attractive fit/healthy blonde female enjoys travel, music, the Arts, gym, the good things in life, seeking love, laughter, LTR with similar male, 40-55yrs. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421473

**JANE**, 47, voluptuous female, long hair, brown eyes, generous curves, would love to spend cosy nights in with that special male. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 417985

**LOU**, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, WLTM a lady between 42-49 with blue eyes, must be kind, caring and funny to mend my broken heart, someone who likes to curl up on the sofa for cozy nights in. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421259

**IAN**, 5ft8, medium build, OHAC, late 50s, likes most things, holidays, gardening, motorbikes, WLTM similar aged lady, 50-60, with nice personality. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 420345

**MONICA**, 35, very attractive, gorgeous curly figure, WLTM nice male who wants to get to know a genuine black beauty to wine, dine, romance hopefully leading to more. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421241

**JO** attractive 30s Brunette who loves life, WLTM up to it for to enjoy nights in/out, weekends away, fun times and hopefully more. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421259

**WAYNE**, 40, cheeky, good career, likes gym. Looking for a lady who likes stimulating conversation and times. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 419865

**TRISH**, 42, tall slim young/good looking GSOH, professional, solvent, OHAC, affectionate and loves TLC, WLTM male who also likes to be in a loving relationship. 39-50yrs. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421137

**DARREN**, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 418809

**ROBERT**, solvent gentleman, seeks female companion, to attend ice hockey, maybe more. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421517

**MALE**, 44, honest, genuine and very caring looking for the same in a woman. **Text only Mailbox:** 5422168

**LEE**, 44, honest, genuine and very caring looking for the same in a woman. **Text only Mailbox:** 5422168

**MALE**, 59, 5ft2, average build, looking for a genuine, caring lady. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 418481

**PHIL**, 53, 5ft7, stocky athletic build, likes keep fit, swimming, cosy nights in, meals out, WLTM an honest, attractive, caring lady, with similar interests. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 412385

**ROBERT**, solvent gentleman, seeks female companion, to attend ice hockey, maybe more. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3724 **Box:** 421517

**MATURE** 23 year old. Career minded. Workaholic. Looking for a chat maybe more? Age does not matter. **Text only Mailbox:** 542350

**NEIL**, 52, solvent, average build, GSOH seeks a caring romantic female for fun nights in and out, and lots of cuddles & kisses. **Text only Mailbox:** 5418572

**YOUNG** at heart male, smart, looks younger than age, likes socialising, looking for companionship & friendship. **Text only Mailbox:** 5412069

**SHROPSHIRE** trucker, 54, WLTM female, 40-65, black or white, for friendship, fun and hopefully more **Text only Mailbox:** 5411957

**Dominant** Goddess sought by tall slim compliant white male, 50, who WLTM are elegant, sensual, high heeled lady, any age/race. **Text only Mailbox:** 4673363

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# FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## deaths

### CLARKE

Geoff

Of Shrewsbury, formerly of Stourbridge and Wolverhampton. Honorary Member of Shrewsbury School and for many years associated with Kettering Tyres.

Beloved Husband of Dianne, loving and much loved Father to Stephen, Melissa and Sarah, cherished Grandad Gus and a Brother, who will be sadly missed.

The Funeral Service will be held in St Giles Church, Wenlock Road, Shrewsbury on Monday, April 25, at 3.15pm, followed by a private Family Committal.

Family flowers only please, however all donations received will be shared between The British Heart Foundation and St Giles Church.

All inquiries please to

### AUBREY KIRKHAM

Funeral Directors, Franklin Island, Shrewsbury. 01743 368999

1 Upper Church Street, Oswestry. Telephone 01691 653116.

**GODDARD**  
George Bertram  
Passed away peacefully on April 2, 2016, aged 99 years. Much loved Husband of the late Doris, loving Dad of Denys and Melvyn, Father-in-law of Carol and Susan and a dear Grandad, Great-Grandad and Great-Great-Grandad.

A private Cremation will be followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at St John the Baptist Parish Church, Whittington, on Thursday, April 28, at 3.15pm.

Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Dementia UK.

We shall announce the Funeral arrangements once they are finalised by the Family.

All inquiries please to

### DAVID DAVIES & SONS

1 Upper Church Street, Oswestry. Telephone 01691 653116.

**HARRIS**  
Peggy  
Passed away peacefully on April 11, 2016, aged 88 years. Much loved Wife of the late Frank, loving Mum of Neil, Lena and Gareth and a dear Nan and Great-Nan.

Funeral Service at St Martins Parish Church, on Friday, April 29, at 11am, followed by Interment in the Churchyard.

Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Hope House Children's Respite Hospice.

All inquiries to

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## Richard's top sales at Furrows

A Shropshire motor dealer's parts specialist has won a prestigious award for his record-breaking sales figures.

Richard Rooker is the parts manager at Furrows of Oswestry and he has worked for the family-owned group for more than 27 years.

Now he has been recognised by Skoda UK for his impressive sales performance after beating the target set for him by almost 140 per cent – the top sales result in the region. General manager at the Whittington Road dealership, Richard Pettener, said the entire team was extremely proud of Rich-

ard's dedication and commitment: "To have beaten his national sales target by such a huge margin, Richard has shown that his knowledge and expertise after so many years in the industry is just second-to-none."

"We're delighted he's been recognised at the very highest level for his success, and we appreciate the effort he puts in every day to ensure our customers receive the best possible service." Richard received his award from Jo Hardy, regional service and parts manager for Skoda UK, in the brand new Skoda showroom at Furrows of

Oswestry's site. He said: "I'm really pleased to have achieved these results but I couldn't have done any of it without the support of my team. It's a real honour that Skoda UK have chosen to reward the performance we've put in, and we'll be working hard to ensure our success continues."

Richard began in Furrows goods inwards division, worked as a parts sales representative on the road, in parts tele-sales and as a service adviser. He became a parts manager ten years ago and has worked at Oswestry since 2009 where he leads the parts team.

## Fine wine, fine food and great company at launch

Hatfields the new name for Land Rover in Shropshire and Mid Wales was officially launched last week.

The opening event was attended by over 200 guests which included celebrity Chef Marcus Bean who designed food for the evening and 'Wine Educator of the Year' Adrian Bucknall who provided some interesting wine's on the night.

All to a backdrop of music performed

by local singer and pianist Michaela Wynde.

It was an opportunity for customers to meet the directors and staff in an informal setting.

Hatfields new site on Battlefield Road, Shrewsbury is their fourth Land Rover showroom, with others in Cheshire and Yorkshire. Hatfields already have a presence in the town with Jaguar

Hatfields was recently awarded the prestigious Land Rover Retail Group of the Year award.

The winners of this award have consistently demonstrated superior performance based on a variety of measures within the Land Rover retail network. Hatfields, a family owned business, will continue to ensure its customers enjoy the very best in quality, value and service.



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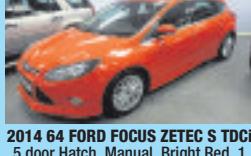
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# Performance bargain in new Ford Focus RS



PUSH a button in the new 165mph Focus RS and you'll enjoy the sort of pops and bangs from two huge exhaust pipes that turn a tame drive to work into the first corner at Silverstone, says Ian Donaldson

If it all sounds barely road legal, you'd be right. It took three visits from the Euro compliance people to Ford's prototype plant in Germany before they had to agree the car was quiet enough for the public road – just.

Push the same button again and the car will easily drift in a wide circle with all four tyres shrieking and scrabbling for grip – impressive in a Top Gear sort of way but best kept to a test track with a Michelin supply truck on call. This 'drift' mode in the car's set up is a tell tale to the way the Ford development team approached this third Focus to wear the RS ultimate performance badge – make it fun to own, in spades.

It takes no more than a few yards to appreciate that it's mission accomplished for the Cologne-based RS crew and not many more to conclude this is the bargain performance car of the year.

At £29,995 on-the-road it's no surprise that order books are bulging with more than 3,000 UK buyers wanting their own Focus RS as soon as possible – and hardly adding another £3,500 worth of options to their cars. Even then it's still cheap for the sort of performance on offer – a 165mph top speed and dash to 62mph in 4.7 seconds are heroic figures, made possible from a 2.3 litre turbocharged engine that pumps out 350 horsepower all day long.

That's the obvious part of the new RS's attraction; have one in nitrous blue (a £745 option chosen by more than half the buyers to date) and the car looks the part of barely tamed road tiger too.

At the front you'll find a huge radiator grille, covered with special mesh that lets the most air possible through to the biggest intercooler the RS team could squeeze into the car

(it keeps the air entering the engine as dense as possible, which is good for power.)

At the rear there's a modest roof spoiler and F1-style diffuser beneath the bumper, both helping to cut rear end lift at speed to zero. That's rare on a road car and an indication of the depth of development that has produced the latest RS. And between the two extremes you'll find a permanent all-wheel drive system that helps keep the car safe, yet drive like something that enjoys power through its rear wheels. And it does, scampering along UK byways with the tenacity of a terrier at play.

The wonder is that the car then rides rougher roads with settled aplomb, always sportingly firm but soaking up the bumps beautifully. That's a hard trick to pull off, but here is a car that could double up as family transport without batting an eyelid – why, it even has four doors and a decent boot.

## Uprated

A little less user friendly is an official fuel consumption of 36.7mpg, but easily dropped to the low-twenties. Exhaust emissions of 175/gms will hurt the pocket too, with £295 road tax in year one and £205 thereafter.

Chunky 19ins alloy wheels cover big uprated brakes that come as part of the RS package, while the sport theme continues with a trio of extra instruments on the dash top and Recaro seats – uprated in the test car with a pair of extra deep semi-race style Recaros (£1,145) that weren't too hard to climb out of and added a dollop of track appeal.

Back to the practicalities; it might not be a lot of money for the driving pleasure on offer but the new RS is not light on non-sporting fixtures and fittings.

Standard kit includes bi-xenon headlights, heated windscreens, dual zone air conditioning, touchscreen DAB audio system, electric and heated door mirrors, electric windows all round, auto dimming rear view mirror and – for UK cars – a special alarm system.

That ought to make the RS hard to steal. Not difficult to appreciate why some tea leaf might want to, though.



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## Wynnstay offer free try-outs for bowls

FANCY trying your hand at a bit of crown green bowling in the delightful setting of The Wynnstay Hotel's secret walled 'garden'?

Wynnstay Bowling Club is offering you the chance to try your hand at this centuries old game that not only provides endless fun but helps you keep fit while you enjoy yourself.

An open day on April 27 sends an open invitation to anyone who thinks they might be interested in trying this gentle sport.

There will be no obligation for you to join and no charge to try it, but be warned it is a fun game with ready-made friends and becomes addictive once you give it a whirl.

Bowling Club members will be on hand on Wednesday, April 27 from 2-4pm and again from 5-7pm, to show you how it all works and bowls plus buckets of advice will be provided free, for you to try it out yourself.

This year the club that normally meets on a Monday and Thursday afternoon for mixed sessions and on Tuesday night for men only and Wednesday night for women only, has women at the helm.

Janice Allport is the current club president and Pam Bridge the club captain.

The club's £31 membership fee covers all of the six month season, working out at little more than £1 a session, while winter indoor bowling is organised when the weather deteriorates in October.

The green is looking it's best this season after members have fed, weeded and honed it to perfection.

But something is missing and that can be you. You can just turn up but if you want to discuss it you can call president Janice Allport on Oswestry 652301.

## Promoted Fox Lane in top start

NEWLY promoted Fox Lane hit the ground running in the Oswestry and District Bowling League division three with a 7-3 victory away to Ellesmere A.

Having stepped up from the fourth division this term, Fox Lane made an impressive win with Ben Parkes (21-11) the best winner in his side's 23 shots (148-125) success.

Ellesmere, who came down from the second division last term, saw Geoff Williams win to 10.

Paul Kendrick and Frank Buckley both won to seven as GEORGE and Mike Davies then disrupted an Eagle move to set up another unconverted try courtesy of an excellent run by Jamie Luckett.

The visitors from Warrington were left wondering how they could stop Oswestry's well-oiled machine from totally outclassing them.

They were given good field position by a thumping kick from the unlikely source of captain Smith, to take play up to the Eagle 22.

The ball was won, and was swiftly passed along the line of backs with Grogan off-loading

**Division two:** Criftins C 2 (145) Criftins B 8 (149). **Division three:** Johnstown C 7 (144) Johnstown D 3 (135), Plas Kinston A 7 (143) Whittington E 3 (123), Caerwernion A 3 (125) Fox Lane 7 (148), George 8 (149) Ceirrog Valley B 2 (107), Rubon B 3 (122) Black Lion 7 (127), Chirk B 9 (149) Llanoger B 2 (105).

**Division four:** LLANRHAEDDR C edged out club mates Llanrhaeddr B by five shots in their 6-4 verdict, Emlyn Thomas leading the way 21-9.

### Results

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**Division four:** LLANRHAEDDR C 6 (138) Llanrhaeddr B 4 (134), Weston Rhyn C 8 (160) Plas Kyngaston B 2 (119), Llanymynech B 10 (168) Cynwyl 6 (106), Cefn-y-Bryn 6 (152) Church C 2 (127), Overton B 7 (141) Liangyngor C 3 (111), Johnstown E 5 (134) Lanyllin A 5 (135).

**Tennis ladies net the title**

WITH the summer season fast approaching, two of Oswestry Tennis Club's top lady players began their action early with a double success in the senior Caernarfon graded tournament.

Josie Macrae and Kat Oakley had already taken the ladies doubles championship in Caernarfon back in February - and have now repeated the title feat in the tournament which, held twice a year, attracts players throughout the country.

At the other end, Darren Thomas forced a low save from Mark Richards while Breese was also denied by Richards in goal.

But the deadlock was broken on 21 minutes after Daniel Jones was adjudged by the linesman to have fouled Darren Thomas on the edge of the area.

Nathan Craig stepped up to curl the ball left footed into the far corner of the net to send the

Town goalkeeper Paul Pritchard was quick off his line to intercept the pace of James Davies on many occasions in the opening exchanges.

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## COBRA keen to secure their safety

COBRA are still looking over their shoulders in the battle for survival in rugby's Swalec Welsh League division one (north) after the two basement sides both won.

With the Meifod men without any action as scheduled visitors Abergele were unable to raise a side due to injuries, they saw both their relegation rivals pick up useful wins.

Llangefni continued their revival with a 24-17 suc-

cess over Mold to claim a bonus point while Dolgellau also picked up a bonus point with an emphatic 32-3 home verdict against Bethesda.

Those two results have seen COBRA's advantage trimmed to eight points above Llangefni, who have three games to play, while Dolgellau have reduced the gap on the Llanfair side to 10 points, with five games remaining.

The Meifod side must win at least one of their re-

maining two fixtures to guarantee safety, with the visit of Abergele having now been rescheduled for Saturday.

Their final outing is against bottom club Dolgellau, with a date to be confirmed, although the basement showdown is likely to be in early May.

■ COBRA's in-form youngsters reached the North Wales Youth Plate final with a fine 15-10 win at Llandudno.

## Oswestry maintain proud home record

RUGBY by John Bridgwater

**SECOND-PLACED** Oswestry hit the points trail in the Cheshire South with a 53-12 romp against Eagle as they maintained their proud unbeaten home record at Granville Park.

Already assured of promotion, the border men appear likely to have to settle for second spot after title rivals Manchester Medics also went on a points spree with an 88-3 demolition of Congleton.

That win kept the Medics two points clear at the top, with two games remaining, while the Os side have just one game left, that being a return trip to Eagle at the end of the month.

So the Os side can only hope that the Medics drop points this weekend at home to Dukinfield which would take the race into the last day.

Eagle, from Warrington, a big Rugby League area, looked big and strong, and threatened to pose a challenge to the men from the Welsh border.

They looked to put their hosts on the back foot on a glorious sunny day for rugby, but were met by some solid defence as the hosts cleared their lines.

And the Os men counter attacked with telling effect when the ball was offloaded to Tom Hill, his debut game at full back, and he mesmerised the Eagles defence to outpace the would-be tacklers to score under the posts, Fin Grogan converting for a 7-0 lead.

The visitors looked to attack, but were unable to find a way through a strong defence, and a mistake saw superb interplay from the ruck to release midfield vice captain Gaz Hughes to score in the corner for an unconverted try.

After Eagle missed a penalty, Oswestry started to dominate with excellent flowing rugby, with the forwards well led by skipper Andy Smith and Hamish Fuller at scrum half.

Man-of-the-match Zeb Baldwin, Gaz Ellis and Mike Davies then disrupted an Eagle move to set up another unconverted try courtesy of an excellent run by Jamie Luckett.

The visitors from Warrington were left wondering how they could stop Oswestry's well-oiled machine from totally outclassing them.

They were given good field position by a thumping kick from the unlikely source of captain Smith, to take play up to the Eagle 22.

The ball was won, and was swiftly passed along the line of backs with Grogan off-loading



Oswestry try scorer Jamie Luckett leads Eagle a merry dance with Gaz Hughes in support

to the effervescent Andy Merrett who in turn passed to Gaz Hughes near the five-metre line. Chris Hesketh then took the ball at pace to bulldoze his way through to score in the corner, with Grogan converting for an emphatic 23-0 advantage.

Again and again, Oswestry's backs produced some terrific running rugby, with Hill creating space with his pace and skill.

The backs and forwards combined, with quick ball from the breakdown putting Eagle under pressure, and the on-form Luckett capitalised on another opening to score with ease in the corner for a 28-0 interval lead with the conversion missed.

The second half continued in the same vein with Oswestry dominating play and the Eagles frustrated at not getting the ball.

This forced them to try and slow this game down

to their pace with some rugged tactics, but Oswestry showed the only way to combat this was to play enterprising rugby.

Their efforts resulted in more tries from Hill, Luckett, who completed his hat-trick, Davies and Gaz Hughes to comfortably secure bonus points.

With 10 minutes to go, Eagle finally found a way through to score a couple of consolation tries to make the final scoreline more.

On Saturday, there are three games at home, with Oswestry's first team taking on Droitwich in the North Midlands Plate as they look to continue their pursuit of silverware.

■ OSWESTRY II made it five wins on the bounce in the North West League division four (south) with a rampaging 94-17 victory over their Eagle counterparts at Granville Park.

## Breeze blows hot to down Llanfair

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

LLANFAIR UNITED remain deep in relegation trouble in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance after succumbing 3-0 to leaders Caernarfon Town despite a spirited display at the Mount Field.

Nathan Craig bagged the opener with a free kick on 19 minutes before ex-Welshpool striker Jamie Breese netted twice on 39 and 55 minutes to seal the points.

With five games remaining, Llanfair still have time to get out of trouble, but face a tough week away to Holywell Town on Wednesday night before making the return trip to Caernarfon on Saturday.

Despite a valiant performance, United were unable to stop high riding Caernarfon from returning with the three points as they edge closer to the league title.

The hosts, however, could reflect on no taking their chances, and almost went ahead after seven minutes when Daniel Jones rose highest to head a corner goalwards but it was well blocked by Clive Williams.

Town goalkeeper Paul Pritchard was quick off his line to intercept the pace of James Davies on many occasions in the opening exchanges.

At the other end, Darren Thomas forced a low save from Mark Richards while Breese was also denied by Richards in goal.

But the deadlock was broken on 21 minutes after Daniel Jones was adjudged by the linesman to have fouled Darren Thomas on the edge of the area.

Nathan Craig stepped up to curl the ball left footed into the far corner of the net to send the

Mold on 14 and 28 minutes from defensive lapses, while Adam Jenkins' reply with a penalty nine minutes could not save the Guils.

James Henderson was a notable absentee for the hosts, while Lee Andrew took over in goal from Dave Littleford.

But the Clos Myton side failed to deliver all over the pitch, as their mixed fortunes continued.

They almost got out of jail with Jenkins converting from the spot after the Mold keeper retaliated having been fouled by player boss Dan Barton.

Andy Ford also hit the post from distance, but Mold fully merited their victory that enhanced their survival prospects.

Struggling Caerwys are also languishing in the relegation mix after their 1-0 home loss to Holyhead Hotspur.

A breakaway goal from Jamie Roberts five minutes before half time proved enough to separate the sides, leaving the Bluebirds hovering one point above the three basement places with two games to play.

Phil Draper saved a penalty in the second half, but the Mid Wales side - who have won just once at home this season - could not salvage the game despite a late spell of pressure.

Rhayader Town, who look destined for the drop, kept their faint hopes of survival alive with a 2-1 home success against Prestatyn Town.

Saturday's fixtures - Huws Gray Cymru Alliance (2.30): Caernarfon Town v Llanfair United, Flint Town United v Prestatyn Town, Holyhead Hotspur v Gwili, Holywell Town v Caerwys, Mold Alex v Rhayader Town.

## Jones nets a point for Morda with late strike

A LATE strike from Jack Jones salvaged a 1-1 draw for Morda United away to Llanymynech in the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League division one

Despite dominating possession, the Weston Road side struggled to find the net and even missed a penalty before Jones earned parity late on.

After Danny Owen and Steve Bishton had gone close for Morda, Matthew Jones gave the hosts the lead from their first attack, volleying home after a weak clearance.

The visitors continued to dominate possession but, despite some intricate approach play, they were restricted to two efforts from Harry Davies.

The first was a free kick palmed for a corner by keeper Matt Prince and the second a snapshot from long range which just cleared the bar.

Playing with the wind after the break, United continued to dominate play as they pushed for a leveller.

Owen set a good example to his fellow players showing great determination in midfield but his side struggled to test keeper Prince.

With nothing appearing to go right up front, manager Colin Turner sent defender Steve Bishton to join the attack leaving just three defenders in the back line as Morda laid siege on the Llanymynech goal.

Strong appeals for a penalty for a trip on Emlyn Williams were denied but a similar challenge five minutes later resulted in a spot kick which Williams sent sailing over the bar.

The Morda equaliser finally came in the dying minutes when the alert Jones pounced to fire home after an Owen shot had hit the post.

**Other results - Div One:** Meifod 3 Llanfachin 3; **Div Two:** Maesyrhaindr 2 Foden United 10, Newtown Rovers 4 Llangedwyn 2.

## St Martins get back in win groove

AFTER back-to-back defeats, St Martins returned to winning ways in the West Midlands League division one with a 5-1 verdict at Wrens Nest to boost hopes of a top five finish.

Despite making the trip to Dudley with a makeshift side, the Saints ran out comfortable winners, with victory built on three goals in the first 15 minutes, while they also had no fewer than four efforts ruled off for offside.

Prospects did not look favourable before kick-off, with the visitors forced to play goalkeeper in an out-field role, and George Austin taking over between the posts. Assistant manager Mike Barton was the lone substitute.

But they made a rousing start, taking the lead after just five minutes with a smart finish from Shawn Melusi.

That advantage was doubled on 12 minutes when Shin Miah put a corner into the box from the left, defender James Durman seeing his first effort saved before firing in the rebound.

Strike

Then three minutes later a good passing move saw Melusi combine with Karl Bailey who broke through to fire a third goal.

Wrens Nest had their moments only to be denied by Austin in goal, but pulled one back right on half time with a fine strike from Stuart Hillman.

Bailey hit the post at the other end soon after the interval, before the visitors restored their three-goal lead on the hour when Bailey latched onto Northwood's through ball before beating the keeper.

It was 5-1 with 15 minutes remaining, when Melusi's pass found Bailey whose shot deflected into the net off Stuart Hillman.

St Martins have league action on Tuesday night when they visit Wednesfield, while on Saturday they welcome Wem in the league cup quarter-final.

## Champions TNS taste defeat at Wingmakers

NEWLY-CROWNED champions The New Saints tasted defeat in the Dafabet Welsh Premier for a fourth time this season after being edged out 3-2 at Airbus UK.

The two sides, who will meet again in the final of the Welsh Cup in two weeks, served up plenty of action at the Hollingsworth Group Stadium despite little riding on the outcome of the encounter.

The Saints, who claimed a fifth successive crown the week before, were always chasing the game after Budrys gave the Wingmakers a two-goal lead, before a fine strike from Ryan Edwards reduced the arrears.

After the break, James Murphy made it 3-1 on 54 minutes and, despite Chris Sergeant slotting a second for TNS, Airbus held firm for an excellent win.

With the title wrapped up, Saints boss Craig Harrison made changes with one eye on the Welsh Cup final, but his side struggled to get into their stride in the first half.

They were given a guard of honour before kick off from their hosts, but went behind on 18 minutes as Budrys opened the scoring when Jonny Spittle's header was parried by keeper Chris Mullock.

The Saints pushed forward in search of an equaliser but were caught on the counter attack 10 minutes later as Budrys tapped in his second from close range from a cross by the lively Ryan Wignall to double the home lead.

However, Edwards' excellent strike got TNS back into game within two minutes when the midfielder found space on the edge of the box before smashing his shot into the net.

Ryan Pryce went close to leveling for the Saints when firing into the side netting from a tight angle, before Budrys missed an opportunity at the other end to complete a first half hat-trick when denied by Mullock.

The second half saw Airbus once again restore their two goal advantage when Murphy beat reserve keeper Mullock in the 54th minute from Jordan Barrow's deep free kick.

Boss Harrison made a triple substitution with Mike Wilde, Greg Draper and the recently recalled Robbie Parry all appearing for the newly crowned champions.

And the substitutes soon made the difference when, after good play down the right, Wilde crossed for Sergeant who coolly slotted in from six yards out to put the visitors back into the game midway through the second half.

Meanwhile, Dan Gossett, on loan from TNS, was on target for lowly Rhyl in their 1-1 draw with basement rivals Haverfordwest.

TNS hold their annual awards night at The Venue, Park Hall next Sunday in which they will celebrate another title winning season.

TNS under-19s' title hopes in the Welsh Premier Development League (North) faded after suffering a 5-3 loss at leaders Bangor City.

## Three and easy for the Reserves

THE season finished on a high for FC Oswestry Town Reserves who overcame AFC Broseley reserves 3-0 to maintain their fine late form in the Mercian League division two.

Town started brightly with Will Richards and man-of-the-match Calum Paterson having several good opportunities early on.

They continued to press forward with Terry Rogers and Gareth Morgan keeping things tight at the back before Serge Phillips broke the deadlock when beating the Broseley keeper from distance.

The Oswestry side continued to press Broseley back and scored a second soon after with a header from Richards just before half-time.

Town increased their lead on 70 minutes with a brilliant 35-yard chip from winger Tom Kivaldo.

With seven minutes left of the half, a cross field

## Ellesmere frustrated as run ended



ELLESMORE RANGERS saw their impressive unbeaten run – five wins and a draw – in the West Midlands League premier division come to an end with a 3-2 defeat against Dudley Town.

Rangers hoped this would be the day they would finally make their return to their much-improved Beech Grove ground for the first time since before Christmas.

But instead they had to delay their homecoming and play on the 3G pitch at Shrewsbury College once again as the public toilets at Beech Grove were

not ready.

They will now hope to get the green light to start playing in north Shropshire again in time for Saturday's home clash against lowly Bilton Town Community.

Last weekend's clash with Dudley, admitted Ellesmere player-coach Jamie Haynes, proved a frustrating one.

Rangers, punished for a low start, quickly found themselves 2-0 down but they cut the arrears just before the break when Louis Irvine converted a penalty after a cross from Connor Courtney was

handled. But no sooner did Rangers think they were back in the game, they conceded again to trail 3-1 at the break.

A second Irvine penalty, this time awarded for a foul on Josh Brown, cut the deficit after the restart, but an equaliser proved elusive despite plenty of Ellesmere pressure.

"We controlled the game in the second half and were camped in their half," said Haynes. "It was a frustrating afternoon."

■ Ellesmere's Joshua Parker (in blue) is surrounded by Dudley Town players

## Llan suffer Cup KO in real battle with Carno

LLANRHAEDR'S hopes of lifting the Spar Mid Wales League Cup came to an end after relinquishing an interval lead in their 3-2 quarter-final exit at home to in-form Carno.

Llan found themselves 1-0 down, and could have been further behind had keeper Connor Lee not saved a penalty.

However, they got back on terms through a Wayne Austin penalty and Gary Meredith netted right on half time to give them the lead.

Carno, though, are a resilient force these days and hit back in the second half with a double strike to book their place in the last four.

It was also the end of the cup road for MONTGOMERY who lost 3-1 at Hay St Mary's while league leaders Knighton Town powered through with a 7-0 rout of Abergavenny.

Second placed Penrhyncoch also reached the last four as two penalties from Mark Gornall put paid to Radnor Valley 3-1, Arron Lemon getting the other while Oliver Jones responded.

Despite a two-goal interval lead, WATERLOO ROVERS slumped 3-2 at Llanidloes Town in the Spar League – and finished with nine men to add to the woe.

Neil Pryce and Luke Evans had Rovers ahead but two second half replies from George Clarke, and one from Adrian Foulkes saw Llanidloes turn the game around. Luke Evans and Gareth Turner were dismissed for the visitors.

Earlier in the week, Rovers also went down 4-0 at home to Carno who scored their 100th goal in the process. Peter Rees netting twice while Ioan Humphreys and Gregg Brown also found the net.

## Berriew are champs in Spar Two

BUOYANT Berriew clinched the Spar Mid Wales League division two crown with a 2-0 home success at Borth United.

Need one point to make sure of the title, the Rhiewsiders clinched all three with George Davies and Rich Davies on target to spark the celebrations.

A few days earlier, Dave Jones' side had sealed promotion back to division one after overcoming Four Crosses 5-2 with Rob Pritchard firing a hat-trick, along with Dave Roberts and an own goal.

Kerry are looking good for promotion after keeping alive their chances of runners-up spot with a 2-1 home win against Bettws.

A goal from Josh Gardner was enough to earn Presteigne a 1-0 home win against lowly FOUR CROSSES.

DYFRYNN BANW continued their improvements with a 1-0 success at Abermule, while Bont were 1-0 winners at Penybont in the day's other action.

## Templeton takes prize at Welshpool

RICHARD Templeton (6) won the Coronation Vase at Welshpool Golf Club on countback. Templeton's 40 points pip Ted Harry Bowen (4) with Lionel Weaver (17) one back.

Rain reduced the seniors' competitions to 12 holes. Tuesday's captain's choice was a Stableford won by Graham Hughes (16) with 24 points. In second was Mike Kendall (4) with 23 points pushing Richie Amyes (28) into third with 22.

Thursday's competition was a better ball won by Sue Jones (17) and Stan Rawlings (22) with 30 points beating Peter Dixon (22) and guest Rory Sheen (15) on the countback.

■ Margaret Bowen and Anne Newell are through to the third round of the Daily Mail competition after beating Henlle ladies 7 and 6.

## Seven-up Town are the league champs

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

**FC OSWESTRY** Town were in seventh heaven after clinching the Mercian League premier division title with a 7-1 win over Oakengates at Park Hall.

In front of a bumper crowd, Town produced a fantastic performance as they hit the ground running with top scorer Chris Bishop having a sixth minute free kick saved.

But five minutes later, the striker was not to be denied when firing home from close range after good work from Jack Harris.

It was then the turn of Harris to go close with a long range effort that stung the fingers of the keeper, but on 37 minutes Al Morris found Harris who beat the offside flag to fire home from 12 yards for a 2-0 interval lead.

The second half saw Town turn on the style and two minutes after the re-start Harris got his second with a low drive into the bottom corner.

Victory was effectively sealed with a fourth goal on 62 minutes when Guy Guilford found the net after some great play by midfielder Tommy Lewis.

Six minutes later, Lewis and Guilford combined down the left and Guilford slotted the ball to Bishop to fire home his second of the game from close range.

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Victory was effectively sealed with a fourth goal on

# Sport

OSWESTRY SPORTS DESK 01743 283301

## Home help – Rhyn win the points

WESTON Rhyn A, back in the top flight of the Oswestry Bowling League this season, got themselves up and running with a fine 7-3 success over local rivals North Mids Plate clash against Droitwich (3pm).

The border club, who look set to finish runners-up on home turf this term, last weekend's 53-12 romp against Warrington side Eagle underlining their credentials.

And, despite several changes, they will look to continue that run against a Droitwich outfit languishing at the foot of Midlands Two West (South) with just one win all season.

With a wedding at the club, the hosts must ring the changes with at least seven regulars missing,

and a 33-shot (155-122) success. Brian Cannett replied to 13.

Elsewhere in division one, Whittington were downed 8-2 (144-121) at Johnstone B, despite Graham Humphreys and Julian Turner winning to three and four respectively.

Criftins A suffered an 8-2 (40 shots) reverse at Ruabon A, Andrew Jones (21-11) gaining some consolation.

Unbeaten Ceiriog Valley A were 7-3 winners against Chirk A, albeit by only two shots, while Overton A saw off Corwen A 8-2 (160-125).

### Whitewash

Church B notched their first win of the season in division two as they overcame visiting Criftins C 8-2 (159-123).

After suffering a whitewash at Flexists the week before, the Oswestry side bounced back with husband and wife Emrys and Glenys Jones winning to 11 and seven respectively, while Natalie Guilar overturned a 16-6 deficit to win to 17.

Ye Old Croft A slumped 9-1 (162-93) at Llangynog A, Gareth Parry (21-15) the one reply.

Llanrhedr A notched a fine 8-2 (159-138) success away to Criftins B, with Mel Roberts leading the way to six and Neil Jones 21-12.

Llanymynech A chalked up a 7-3 (151-134) home verdict against Cynwyd A, with Mark Kirkham (21-11) and Paul Smith (21-13) two of the heavier winners.

Whittington B secured a 7-3 (153-134) home win against Bersham, Peter Humber prevailing 21-10, while Michael Dovaston took the coppers 21-6 as Ellesmere B won 7-3 (149-121) at home to Flexsys A.

## That's champion – Jones hails team

BOSS Dave Jones hailed the efforts of his Berriew side after they wrapped up the Spar Mid Wales League division two title.

A 2-0 victory at Borth United, with a goal in each half from George Davies and Richard Davies, sealed the crown with time to spare.

"I am extremely proud of the players who have performed brilliantly all season and fully deserve to be league champions, as well as also being in the final of the ER Jenkins Cup and quarter-final of the Montgomeryshire Cup," said Jones, the former Welshpool manager.

"We are a very young team with half of the squad at Borth on Saturday still teenagers."

"These lads will only get better in the next few years and I am confident there will be more success to come."

"Saturday was another good performance."

"In the second half we should have wrapped the game up earlier."

## Rugby

### Oswestry maintain super record – P34

## Football

### FC Oswestry Town are champs – P35

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## Cricketers just want to see sun

CLUBS throughout the region will be hoping for some dry weather with the Shropshire Cricket League season due to get under way this weekend.

A succession of deluges has left grounds throughout Mid Wales and the borders waterlogged, but a more settled spell this week has boosted prospects of some play.

The Shropshire League starts on Saturday, with Welshpool looking to build on last season's improvements when they head to Bishop's Castle in division two.

Cae Glas are away to Prees; Ellesmere visit Tibberton and Montgomery travel to Whetton Aston.

The first scheduled league action at Oswestry's Morda Road sees the third team entertain Alberbury III in the newly named Shropshire League Sunday division one on Sunday.

### Visa

Oswestry's first team, who have dropped down to the Birmingham League division two this season, get under way at home to Harborne the following Saturday.

Hopes of bringing in an overseas wicket-keeper from South Africa have been delayed over visa problems.

But the club remain confident that he will join soon.

Three players have returned to the club – left-arm spinner Charlie Morris, opening bat Scott Hale and all-rounder Kevin Evans – while Alex Huxley and Australian wicketkeeper Michael Johnson have left.

Oswestry will be captained by all-rounder Jonathan Miles, with Mark Robinson having stepped down as skipper this term.

The side's pre-season friendly at Shifnal last weekend was called off due to a waterlogged ground. Oswestry are set to host Newport in another friendly on Saturday – weather permitting.

## Late winner puts Guils in the final

GUILSFIELD stayed on the silverware trail after booking their place for the final of the Central Wales Cup with a 2-1 win over Llanrhedr at Llansantffraid.

A Gary Meredit header close to half-time gave Llanrhedr the lead, but the Guils hit back after the break through a Chris Cathrall free-kick and Callum Bromley got the winner just two minutes from time.

Hay St Marys or Kerry take on Carno or Aberaeron in the other semi-final.

Guilsfield return to Cymru Alliance duty on Saturday with a trip to Holyhead Hotspur as they look to bounce back from a disappointing 2-1 defeat against lowly Mold Alex.

LLANFAIR United boss Rhys Stephens insists his side will still avoid the drop. Last week's 3-0 defeat at home to high-flying Caernarfon Town left United in the bottom three with five games left.

"I still think two wins could be enough," said Stephens. "I can't knock the boys at all for their effort."

Llanfair were at Holywell Town on Wednesday night and go to title favourites Caernarfon on Saturday.

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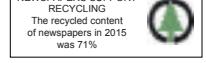
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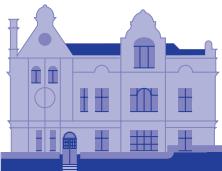
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THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016

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BMW UK Deposit Contribution	£2,000.00	Optional Final Payment	£11,642.59
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BMW UK Deposit Contribution	£4,000.00	Optional Final Payment	£13,401.94
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Dealer Deposit Contribution	£2,590.88	Option to Purchase Fee	£1.00
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Mar-15	X3 2.0d xDrive M Sport	Alpine White	£42,240	£37,950	£4,290	6.2% APR
Mar-15	640d M Sport Convertible	Glacier Silver Metallic	£79,530	£58,950	£20,580	0.0% APR
Mar-15	518d M Sport Saloon	Jet Black	£34,210	£30,950	£3,260	5.9% APR
Mar-15	118d Sport 5-door Sports	Black Sapphire Metallic	£26,555	£22,950	£3,605	5.9% APR
Mar-15	218i M Sport Coupe	Estoril Blue	£31,585	£27,950	£3,635	5.9% APR
Mar-15	X3 xDrive20d xLine	Mineral White	£39,880	£35,950	£3,930	6.2% APR
Mar-15	X4 xDrive20d M Sport	Glacier Silver Metallic	£46,810	£41,950	£4,860	6.2% APR
Mar-15	420d Sport Convertible	Midnight Blue Metallic	£44,090	£37,950	£6,140	4.9% APR
Mar-05	320d xDrive M Sport Gran Turismo	Alpine White	£38,340	£31,950	£6,390	5.9% APR
Mar-15	420d M Sport Gran Coupe	Mineral Grey Metallic	£38,085	£33,950	£4,135	4.9% APR
Mar-15	440i M Sport Gran Coupe	Black Sapphire Metallic	£47,840	£39,950	£7,890	4.9% APR
Mar-15	420d xDrive M Sport Gran Coupe	Glacier Silver Metallic	£41,910	£36,950	£4,960	4.9% APR
Mar-15	218d M Sport Active Tourer	Mineral Grey Metallic	£31,395	£27,950	£3,445	5.9% APR
Mar-15	218d Sport Gran Tourer	Glacier Silver Metallic	£33,590	£28,950	£4,640	2.9% APR
Mar-15	218i Sport Gran Tourer	Alpine White	£26,675	£23,950	£2,725	2.9% APR
Mar-15	X1 xDrive20d Sport	Alpine White	£35,015	£31,950	£3,065	6.2% APR
Mar-15	Z4 sDrive18i Roadster	Estoril Blue	£35,110	£27,950	£7,160	5.9% APR

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## RYBROOK SHREWSBURY APPROVED USED

REGISTERED	MODEL	EXTERIOR COLOUR	INTERIOR TRIM	PLATE	MILEAGE	PRICE
14/03/2011	118d SE 5-door 2.0	Deep Sea Blue	Cloth Elektra Anthra	11	62753	9950
05/05/2010	123d M Sport 3-door	Le Mans Blue	Leather Boston Black	10	47650	11950
24/12/2012	116i Sport 5-door Sports Hatch 1.6	Alpine White	Anthracite/Red Track	62	23256	13950
20/03/2012	X1 xDrive18d SE 2.0	Titanium Silver	Black Nevada leather	12	42831	14450
18/05/2012	120d Sport 5-door Sports Hatch 2.0d	Glacier Silver metal	Anthracite/Red Track	12	36546	14950
22/10/2010	Z4 sDrive30i Roadster	Alpine White	Coral Red Kansas lea	60	64145	15950
01/06/2011	330d SE Touring 3.0	Vermilion Red	Saddle Brown Dakota	11	16641	18950
28/06/2013	520d M Sport Touring 2.0d	Alpine White	Dakota Black Leather	13	41089	20950
29/09/2015	218i Sport Active Tourer 1.5	Platinum Silver	Anthracite/Grey Race cloth upholstery	65	8161	21950
24/12/2012	530d M Sport GT 3.0d	Imperial Blue Xiralllic	Ivory White/Black Dakota Leather	62	45004	22950
29/09/2015	120d xDrive Sport 5-door Sports Hatch	Alpine White	Coral Red Dakota leather upholstery	65	6623	22950
18/03/2015	320d M Sport Saloon 2.0d	Estoril Blue	Dakota Black Leather	15	15989	22950
02/09/2011	X3 xDrive30d M Sport 3.0d	Space Grey	Black Nevada leather	61	48039	24950
01/06/2009	M3 Convertible 4.0	Jerez Black metallic	Leather Novillo Black	09	29415	26950
29/09/2015	420i xDrive M Sport Coupe 2.0	Estoril Blue	Dakota Black Leather	65	7563	27950
09/06/2015	330d xDrive Luxury Touring 3.0d	Alpine White	Black Dakota leather with Exclusive stitching	15	7009	27950
22/12/2015	420i M Sport Gran Coupe 2.0	Alpine White	Dakota Black Leather	65	503	29950
10/09/2014	X6 xDrive40d 3.0	Black Sapphire	Oyster Nevada leathe	64	31033	34950
03/09/2015	535i M Sport Saloon 3.0	Carbon Black	Black Dakota leather with Exclusive stitch	65	4598	35950
29/10/2015	X4 xDrive30d M Sport 3.0d	Carbon Black	Ivory White / Black Nevada leather upholstery	65	3286	37950
24/10/2014	640d M Sport Coupe 3.0d	BMW Individual Colou	Dakota Black Leather	64	30414	39950
10/09/2014	X5 xDrive40d M Sport 3.0	Black Sapphire	Dakota Black Leather	64	16350	42950
30/07/2015	X5 xDrive30d M Sport 3.0	Space Grey	Dakota Black Leather	15	15980	49950
30/01/2014	M6 Convertible S63 4.4i	San Marino Blue	Silverstone Extended Merino Leather	63	26502	52950
31/05/2015	BMW i8	Sophisto Grey metallic with BMW i Blue	Amido Black BMW i Spheric Full leather	15	4474	79950

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from £599



**2 Series Active Tourer**  
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from £1699



**2 Series Gran Tourer**  
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from £1899



**3 Series Saloon**  
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**3 Series Touring**  
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## Rybrook Rewards

<b>MOT</b> £29.95	<b>FIXED PRICED SERVICING</b> FOR BMWS OVER 5 YEARS OLD	<b>OIL &amp; FILTER SERVICE</b> 4 CYLINDER FROM £120* 6 CYLINDER FROM £140*	<b>BRAKE FLUID CHANGE</b> £59	<b>SEASONAL HEALTH CHECK</b> £39.99	<b>SMART REPAIRS WHEEL REFURBS</b> £45 PER WHEEL	<b>TYRES FROM £50.00 EACH</b> INCLUDES BALANCE & FITTING
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For more information on Rybrook Rewards call **01743 467 467**

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Official fuel economy figures for the BMW range: Urban 13.8-62.4mpg (20.5-4.4l/100km). Extra Urban 26.2-83.1mpg (10.8-3.4l/100km). Combined 20.3-74.3mpg (13.9-3.8l/100km). CO2 emissions 325-99g/km. Figures may vary depending on driving style and conditions.

Finance examples are for a BMW Select agreement for the selected BMW model(s) as shown. Applies for new vehicles order between 01 April 2016 and 30 June 2016 and registered by 30 April 2016. Prices are correct at time of going online (April 2016). Retail customers only. On the road cash price is based on manufacturers recommended retail price and includes 3 year BMW Dealer Warranty, BMW Emergency Service, 12 months road fund licence, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and VAT. Credit arrangement fee payable with first monthly payment and credit completion fee payable at the end of the agreement. Optional final payment and option to purchase fee not payable if you opt to return the vehicle at the end of the agreement (vehicle condition, excess mileage and other charges may be payable). Finance available subject to credit acceptance to UK residents aged 18 or over. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Terms and conditions apply. Offer may be varied, withdrawn or extended at any time. BMW Select is a form of hire-purchase agreement provided by BMW Financial Services (GB) Limited, Bartley Way, Hook, Hampshire RG27 9UF. We commonly introduce customers to BMW Financial Services, for which we may receive payment if you enter into an agreement with them. This introduction does not amount to independent financial advice.